

Hafa Adai!

SDA School is robbed weeks before opening. **PAGE 3**  
Yap to hold 8th canoe festival in December. **PAGE 6**

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75¢

## Govt to pay Mangabao estate finally

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**  
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REPORTER

In about three weeks' time, the Commonwealth government will finally pay the estate of Maria Mangabao the millions it owes the estate for nearly a quarter of a century.

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres said the government also intends to address the other large outstanding judgments of the CNMI government.

This comes soon after Superior Court judge pro tempore Alberto C. Lamorena III ordered the CNMI government on Monday to pay the

**See GOVT on Page 4**

### New formula: \$11.5M for NMI schools

**WASHINGTON, D.C.**—Marianas schools are getting \$11.5 million in federal Title IA education funds this year, Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) said yesterday. The increase—\$4.1 million

more over last year—comes from the new funding formula for island schools that Sablan was able to include in the Every Student Succeeds Act in 2015.

**See NEW on Page 4**

An artist's rendition of the proposed Saipan Garden Hotel in Tanapag.

FERDIE DE LA TORRE

## Company woos Zoning to build \$144.3M Tanapag hotel

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**  
ferdie\_delatorre@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

A company that is planning to renovate the former Magellan Hotel is applying with the Commonwealth

Zoning Office for a conditional use permit for a cluster hotel in Tanapag that will reportedly cost \$144.3 million to build.

American Sinopan LLC general manager Guo Hua Pan said the

1,184-room hotel, Saipan Garden Resort, will consist of 10 six-story hotel buildings.

The Zoning board will hold a public hearing on American Sinopan's application at the Pedro P. Tenorio

Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe on Aug. 9 at 5pm.

The proposed site is the 100,000-square-meter private land between Travel Lane and Lissif Lane across Tanapag Elementary School.

The area is zoned as rural.

Henry K. Pangelinan is listed as the local designer and authorized representative.

American Sinopan chief executive

**See COMPANY on Page 4**

### INSIDE



#### ASIA

North Korea has suddenly canceled a popular monthlong beer festival.

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#### WORLD

Israel removes railings and an overhead metal bridge near a Jerusalem holy site.

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#### LIFE & STYLE

A jury finds that Michael Jackson's estate owes Quincy Jones \$9.4 million.

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# Local

## New law limits number of shooting ranges, galleries

By **ERWIN ENCINARES**  
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REPORTER

Acting governor Arnold I. Palacios signed into law Wednesday a law that limits the number of shooting galleries and shooting ranges to one per senatorial district.

Public Law 20-03 mandates only one shooting gallery license per senatorial district.

There are currently no shooting galleries or shooting ranges on Rota, one shooting range but no shooting gallery on Tinian, and one shooting gallery, one shooting range, and one pistol range—under the control of the Department

of Public Safety—on Saipan.

The original bill, Senate Bill 20-14 HD1, cited the mass shooting in Kanat Tabla in 2009, when a Chinese national went on a shooting spree that injured nine people and killed five.

The bill states that shooting galleries and shooting ranges are not allowed to operate without a license while limiting the establishments of one each per island.

The new law states that licenses would be denied if a "... convicted felon or a corporation in which a convicted felon is serving on the board of directors or is an executive officer."

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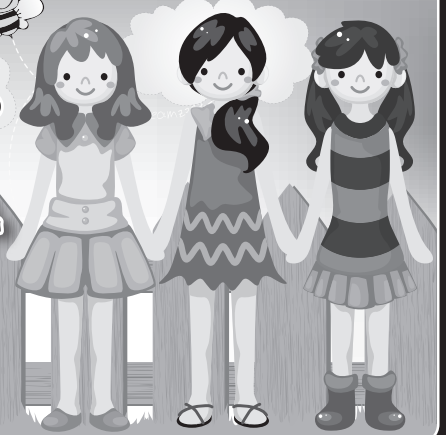
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## SDA school is robbed weeks before opening

By **KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA**  
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REPORTER

A private school was robbed less than three weeks before the opening of the new school year, leaving the entire school shaken up. The Seventh Day Adventist School was burglarized last Saturday.

According to SDA principal Randy Yates, the school was burglarized at 3am Saturday morning and the suspect was caught on security footage before the burglar disconnected the camera.

Yates and the school's staff discovered the burglary upon arriving at the school the following day. Yates is saddened that someone could steal from a school, "let alone a school that caters to students as young as 1 year to 14 years old."

According to Yates, the robber did not only steal from the students but also stole from a school, the staff, and every parent that has entrusted the SDA with their children.

The school had to repair its doors and lost items had to be replaced before the beginning of the school year on Aug. 10.

Despite the incident, Yates said they will press ahead with preparations and repairs and will be ready for the new school year.

"Will this dampen our spirit and goals? Not the least!" said Yates. "We are here for the students."

Extra safety measures have been put in place to ensure that it will take a lot of work to break into SDA again.

"We have replaced the doors with metal doors and

we are currently installing new surveillance cameras and system. We are also installing other safeguards that we hope will deter someone from wanting to break in..." said Yates.

He declined to identify the stolen items but did disclose that one of the valuables stolen was his personal ukulele.

The suspect was photographed through a surveillance camera before the camera was pulled out and disconnected. The authorities are still currently identifying the suspect.

The case is still under investigation and the suspect has yet to be identified and arrested.

"I hope they catch the guy not only for this crime he committed, but for possible future crimes he may commit," added Yates.

## DPS places cop on restricted duty

The Department of Public Safety has placed a police officer on restricted duty pending the result of an investigation into his arrest last weekend for crashing his car in Koblerville while allegedly drunk.

Acting DPS spokesman Sgt. Jason Tarkong confirmed with *Saipan Tribune* yesterday that Dixon Kwon was arrested for driving while under the influence of alcohol, reckless driving, and two other traffic offenses.

*Saipan Tribune* first reported Kwon's arrest on Tuesday, citing multiple sources.

Tarkong said Kwon was released on Sunday afternoon,

hours after the incident.

Kwon, a DUI officer, was off-duty when the crash happened on Saturday night. His girlfriend, who was his passenger, was injured.

DPS received a call on Saturday at 10:45pm about a car crash in Koblerville.

Tarkong said preliminary investigation showed that Kwon was driving his Nissan car with a female passenger when the vehicle ran off the road and hit a tree on As Gonno Road near the Coral Ocean Point Golf Resort.

When officers arrived, Kwon was not at the scene

but the injured passenger was, Tarkong said. Officers later found him walking at the COP area, apparently to get help.

Tarkong said police arrested Kwon for DUI and other offenses.

Meanwhile, Tarkong said Aghilimal R. Faisao, a 21-year-old police cadet, will not be included at the graduation ceremony for police cadets today, Friday. Tarkong said DPS terminated Faisao.

Faisao was arrested on Sunday for allegedly not paying for food he ate at a gas station in Chalan Kiya. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

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# House budget proposal: \$145.2M

By **ERWIN ENCINARES**  
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REPORTER

After weeks of back-and-forth, the House Ways and Means Committee finally came up with a \$145.2-million budget bill for fiscal year 2018 that must be enacted before Sept. 30, 2017, to avert a CNMI government shutdown.

The bill is set to be introduced to the House of Representatives today.

Committee chair Rep. Angel Demapan (R-Saipan) said the bill—a product of “lengthy and tedious work” and multiple meetings—is a “workable budget package that remains within the con-

finances of the total revenues identified by Gov. Ralph DLG Torres.”

To be introduced as House Bill 20-105, the budget bill continues a trend of sustained growth, indicating a 5.56-percent increase compared to the fiscal year 2017 budget.

HB 20-105 has only been adopted at the committee level, making changes inevitable in the form of opposing lawmakers. Opposition may come from Torres himself. HB 20-105 is merely the skeleton of the final budget.

Of the three branches of government, the Executive

Branch got the lion’s share at \$40.86 million. The Legislature gets \$8.54 million, while the Judiciary is appropriated \$6.64 million.

The Judiciary’s \$6.64 million is an 11.1-percent increase compared to its 2017 budget of

\$5.97 million. Some 76.69 percent of the \$6.64 million, or \$5.09 million, goes to personnel, while 13.52 percent, or \$897,665, goes to operations, and the remaining 9.79 percent or \$650,000 goes to utilities.

The Legislature’s \$8.54 million is a 22.61-percent

increase compared to fiscal year 2017. About 52 percent, or \$4.51 million, of its budget goes to personnel, while 46.29 percent, or \$3.95 million of its budget, goes to operations. The remaining 0.8 percent, or \$71,400, goes to utilities.

The Executive Branch’s \$40.86 million is an 8.58-percent increase compared to fiscal year 2017. The \$40.86 million is further divided among various offices of the Executive Branch. Commerce got \$1.65 million, Community and Cultural Affairs got \$2.93 million, Corrections got \$5.29 million, Fire and Emergency Services got \$4.07 million, Finance

got \$5.4 million, Labor got \$910,852, Lands and Natural Resources got \$3.47 million, Public Safety got \$6.48 million, and Public Works got \$3.75 million.

Notably, while most government agencies received substantial increases in budget compared to their budgets in fiscal year 2017, DOL received the shortest end of the stick for the fiscal year 2018 budget bill, receiving an increase of only \$3,854.

Rota received \$7.81 million in appropriations—an

increase of 3.51 percent.

Tinian and Aguiguan was appropriated \$7.70 million—an increase 1.74 percent.

Saipan and the Northern Islands received an appropriation of \$3.27 million—an increase of 18.91 percent.

The Public School System was appropriated \$35.99 million. A constitutional mandate requires the CNMI government to appropriate no less than a quarter of its total budget to PSS.

The total budget for appropriations is \$145.26 million.

## COMPANY

From Page 1

officer Ken Lin said in an interview yesterday that the six-story hotel buildings won’t be skyscraper high.

To save time, Lin said, all the design materials will be pre-fabricated in Asia and brought here.

“The material itself is typhoon-, fire-, termite-, and

earthquake-proof,” he said. “So it is much easier in terms of labor.”

The target opening of the project is by the end of 2019.

Lin said that construction will be in three phases.

He said that, based on the Marianas Visitors Authority’s data, what is needed on Saipan right now are young couples, families, and teenagers who want to explore.

He said these kind of

tourists will be their target clients.

According to the company’s application, the resort includes a main lobby and administrative building, two restaurants, two hotel dining buildings, two apartment buildings with one clubhouse facility, two staff housing with one cafeteria, three swimming pools, parking, landscaping, site lighting, and water, sewer and power

infrastructure.

The Zoning board recently approved with some conditions American SinoPan’s proposed \$350,000 renovation of the two-story 12-room former Magellan Hotel on Wireless Ridge on Capital Hill, Saipan. The company renamed it Heaven II Hotel II.

American SinoPan’s mother company owns a golf course and three hotels in China.

## GOVT

From Page 1

Mangabao estate \$16.3 million by Aug. 18, 2017, for taking the estate’s land in Chalan Kanoa in 1993.

Torres noted that fully paying off the Mangabao estate alone will save the government an estimated \$3.8 million in accruing interest.

Besides the Mangabao estate, the other judgments to be addressed include the Lizama, Muña, Quitugua, and Rogolofoi estates.

The money will come from the business gross revenue tax generated by the casino industry, Torres said in a statement last night.

“With the increase in revenue as a result of our growing economy, we are now able to fully pay off our government’s biggest debts and obligations. Since the June 23, 2017 court order, my administration, through then-acting governor Arnold I. Palacios, held several meetings and discussions with the Office of the Attorney General, the Office of Management and Budget, and the Department of Finance in order to come up with a payment plan,” Torres said. “It was agreed that the most fiscally responsible decision would be to pay the judgments in full by

Aug. 18, 2017.”

Palacios, as Senate President, and House Speaker Ralph S. Demapan (R-Saipan), in consultation with the Office of the Attorney General and Department of Public Lands, facilitated in the drafting of the bill to be sent to the Legislature that would authorize the appropriation in order to respect the court-ordered timeline to fulfill the obligation to the Mangabao estate.

“The prompt passage of this bill is important, not only because it fully pays off the judgment so that it does not accumulate additional interest, but it also solidifies our commitment to paying off our government’s other debts and judgments. Other outstanding land compensation judgments will be addressed in subsequent legislation, but the administration and the Legislature have been successfully collaborating to get those done,” Palacios said.

Torres underscored the importance of addressing the government’s longstanding obligations. “For years, these families have been waiting and have been promised, and my administration and the Legislature would like to thank them for their patience and sacrifices. I believe that our government needs to live up to its promises, and it is my hope that under my ad-

ministration, we will continue to address the other land judgments and other government debts, so that we can start building a better future for our children and for our Commonwealth.”

In his Monday order, Lamorena said the amount of \$16,296,263 that the government must pay the Mangabao estate represents the outstanding principal and interest that will have accrued by Aug. 18, 2017.

The judge issued the order after the parties in the Mangabao’s lawsuit submitted a payment plan to the court. Assistant attorney general Charles E. Brasington, counsel for the government, submitted the plan.

Last month, Lamorena praised the CNMI government for paying the Mangabao estate heirs \$3 million, but ordered the government to begin paying the remaining balance of over \$15 million within 30 days.

In that order, Lamorena expressed concern that the Commonwealth has not taken enough steps to pay the Mangabao estate in full.

Should the government be unable to make payments and/or unable to satisfy the terms of the judgment, Lamorena said the government should detail its payment plan that must cover the full interest rate

for each installment plus an additional 25 percent of the installment toward the principal.

Attorney Michael Dotts, counsel for the heirs, told *Saipan Tribune* earlier that the government made a \$3-million payment last March, reducing the total amount due from close to \$20 million to about \$17 million.

Dotts said attorneys are now working to get that first \$3 million distributed to the heirs.

Dotts said interest is now accruing at about \$957,000 per year.

Dotts said the motion that resulted in Lamorena’s order was written and filed by the late Edward Arriola, who also served as counsel for the heirs.

“If it were not for Ed, this every important step forward in making the CNMI recognize and pay its legal obligations would not have happened,” Dotts said.

The heirs, though Arriola and Dotts, sought an order from the CNMI Supreme Court and Superior Court to compel the government to pay the judgment entered in 2008 that has grown to \$18.8 million over the taking of their land in Chalan Kanoa.

According to court records, the CNMI and the Mangabao heirs agreed to the taking of land consisting of 6,000 square meters in 1993 and a judgment of \$4.2 million.

## NEW

From Page 1

Students and teachers will have more computers to work with in the schools, as a result of the new money.

The Public School System plans to provide more school-to-work training opportunities for students.

Thirty percent of the \$11.5 million is available this month and the remainder in October.

This is the first year that Sablan’s new funding formula kicks in, and the increased funding should now continue every year.

“Increasing federal education funding for the Marianas was my number one goal, when I was sworn in in 2009,” Sablan said. “We were immediately successful with the \$44 million in American Recovery and Reinvestment Act school funding. Shortly after we got another \$8 million that paid for PSS teachers’ salaries in the dark days of the recession.

“But I always had my eyes set on getting the funding formula for insular areas improved in Title IA of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. Because that change is not one time. That change means millions of dollars more for our schools year after year after year.”

It was not until 2015, however, that the Elementary and Secondary Education Act was finally reauthorized, giving Sablan the legislative opportunity he had been looking for.

“I was a member of the Education Committee and for six years I had laid the groundwork, educating other members and number-crunching with Congressional Research Service staff. It was only because of those many years of preparation that we were able to get a change for the insular areas in the Title IA formula.

“In fact, my amendment was the only change allowed in the national system for distributing the Title IA money.

Even leading members of the Senate, who tried to get the formula adjusted, could not.”

According to PSS officials, the new money will benefit students and teachers directly by making more iPads and laptops available for their use.

PSS also plans to expand the co-op program, which puts high school students in the workplace. Many are able to secure national certification from the Hotel and Lodging Association through the co-op’s partnership with the Latte Training Academy.

“Another program that PSS will be able to grow is the training for K-3<sup>rd</sup> grade teachers on how to help students be reading on grade level by the end of third grade,” Sablan explained.

“Third grade is the time when students make the transition from learning to read to reading to learn. So, it is very important that our kids have the strongest possible reading skills at that critical point in their educational careers.”

An expanded wellness and physical education program, focused on making the right food choices and getting 60 minutes of exercise every school day, will also benefit from the new federal money. And PSS plans to fund more student competitions.

“PSS has many plans for the new funding; and, of course, these may change over time,” Congressman Kilili commented. “What is important is that year after year this money is going to be improving the quality of education students in the Marianas receive.

“As those students become adults, the education they have and how they use it is going to make life better for all of us in the Marianas.

“I truly believe that education is the best investment we can make.

“This new funding formula and the increased money it gives us will allow us to invest even more—in our kids today and in a better future for us all.” (PR)



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# Yap to hold 8th canoe festival in December

Celebrating the rich heritage of traditional seafaring in the Pacific region of Micronesia, the Yap Visitors Bureau, in partnership with the Yap Traditional Navigation Society, has announced that the 8th annual Yap Canoe Festival will be held Dec. 8 and 9, 2017, in Colonia.

The two-day festival will take place at the Yap Living History Museum and will include a parade of traditional

sailing canoes, dances, skills demonstrations, and a marketplace offering food and handicrafts for sale.

## » Traditional seafaring heritage to be celebrated on Dec. 8 and 9

Micronesian scholar and filmmaker Dr. Eric Metzgar will provide the keynote address and present his video, *A Voyaging Odyssey*, featuring highlights from the 2010 ocean voyages captained by *pwo* master navigator Ali Haleyalur and master canoe carver Chief



Traditional canoe carving in Yap, Federated States of Micronesia.

BRAD HOLLAND

Bruno Tharngan. The ocean crossings “rediscovered” the ancient, traditional sea routes between the islands of Lamotrek, Guam, Yap, and Palau.

“We are excited that Dr. Metzgar will be joining us, along with Ali Haleyalur and Chief Tharngan,” said Don Evans, general manager of the Yap Visitors Bureau. “Dr.

Metzgar has spent many years on the outer islands of Yap studying the art and history of traditional sailing and is a leading expert in the field.”

Voyaging canoe rides will be offered on Friday, Dec. 8, followed that evening by the traditional dances of Yap that are renowned throughout the region.

On Saturday, Dec. 9, a

photographic exhibit of Yap’s seafaring history along with other exhibits will be on display.

Visitors will also have the rare opportunity to taste the traditional offertory, voyaging, and celebratory foods connected with successful long sea voyages.

“This year’s Canoe Festival promises to be a not-to-

be-missed experience for not only canoeists but anyone interested in learning more about the seafaring history and traditions of these remote Pacific islands,” said Evans.

For more information, visit [www.visit Yap.com](http://www.visit Yap.com) or email Tom Tamangmow at the Yap Visitors Bureau at [tomyvb@mail.fm](mailto:tomyvb@mail.fm) or by phone at (691) 350-2298. (PR)

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**Factory Trained Technicians from American Honda will be on site**

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SAPPORO ICHIBAN RAMEN 24/3.5OZ	DIAMOND G CALROSE RICE 50#	MEADOW FRESH LOWFAT MILK 1 LTR	KAI VODKA 750ml	HAWAIIAN SUN DRINKS
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				<b>U.S. APPLE FUJI WASH /LB</b>  <b>\$1.59 /lb</b>
				<b>NESTEA ICED TEA MIX 40QRT 90.3z</b>  <b>\$7.59</b>
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Northern Marianas Trades Institute

## VOICES to host summer camp

The VOICES of the CNMI Tinian Chapter joins the ADA National Network in celebrating 27th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

The organization, in collaboration with Team Koka, will also be having its annual summer camp tomorrow, July 29, 2017, at the Kammer Beach main pavilion, from 10am to 7:30pm.

The camp will raise awareness of disabilities, safety issues, underage drinking and tobacco use, and what to expect during emergencies.

Registration is limited to the first 100 participants. Register by contacting Monika H. Diaz

at 783-0591 or Janeth Barcinas at Tinian Elementary and Tracy Sanchez at Tinian High School.

The ADA was signed into law by President George H.W. Bush on July 26, 1990.

The ADA and the ADA Amendments Act of 2008 give civil rights protections to individuals with disabilities similar to those provided to other individuals on the basis of race, color, sex, national origin, age, and religion.

The ADA and ADAAA also assure equal opportunity for individuals with disabilities for access to businesses, employment, transportation,

state and local government programs and services, and telecommunications.

The VOICES of the CNMI – Tinian has been very visible in the community and hopes to see change in public facilities, businesses, government agencies, and others in providing accommodations for people with disabilities. The organization also hopes that the peo-

ple will accept and respect the needs of people with disabilities. We want to see that these individuals participate fully in the community.

The three things that this nonprofit organization hopes to see soon are accessible play areas, incorporating the ADA standards of accessible design in public facilities, and access to beaches. (PR)

## SVES to host Open House

San Vicente Elementary School will be having an Open House on Aug. 18, 2017, at 5pm-6pm. Parents or legal guardians are encouraged to attend the Open House for an opportunity to meet their child's

teacher and receive information regarding the expectations for their child's success.

The first day of school is on Aug. 16, 2017. School begins at 7:40am and dismissal is at 2:40pm. (PR)

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**Island-wide treasure hunt for \$1,000 in progress!**

Clues will be given every Wednesday and Friday 8pm at Club 88

**Weekly Cash Drawings:**  
Wed - Fri 8pm to 12mn  
Major Prize of \$250 @ 12mn  
Sat 9pm-1am  
Major Prize \$250 @ 12mn & \$500 @ 1am  
Sun 7pm-9pm  
Major Prize \$250 @ 10pm

**Big jackpots more often!**

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## Leon Guerrero is now bank's SF branch VP

**HAGATNA, Guam**—Jesus H. Leon Guerrero has been promoted from Bank of Guam's assistant vice president/senior credit analyst to vice president/relationship manager in the bank's San Francisco branch in California.

The bank made the announcement yesterday.

Leon Guerrero attended Guam's St. John's School and graduated from Santa Clara University in 2010, with a bachelor degree in Commerce and Finance. That same year,



Guerrero

he joined Fisher Investments, an independent wealth management firm, initially as a client operations associate, and was later promoted to Trading Operations Associate in 2012. Leon Guerrero joined Bank of Guam later in 2012 as an assistant vice president/senior credit analyst.

Leon Guerrero was acknowledged as a top performing lender for the 2011-2015 period from the State of California's Infrastructure and Economic Development Bank. He served as a board member, RMA Golden Gate chapter, Young Professional chair. Currently, Leon Guerrero is the Finance and Membership chair and a board member of Curry PALS, a nonprofit focused on serving homeless seniors in San Francisco.

Bank of Guam is a \$1.9-billion bank based in Hagatna, Guam, with 23 branches throughout the western Pacific. Founded in 1972, the bank is celebrating 45 years of serving the island communities. (PR)

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## CRIME OF THE WEEK

### Garapan snatching incident

Crime Stoppers is seeking the public's help for a robbery that occurred in Garapan.

On Tuesday night, July 25, 2017, at about 7:55pm, po-

lice responded to the Garapan Courtyard Apartment located on Coffee Tree Mall Street. Police learned from the victim, a 36-year-old Chinese fe-

male, that she was walking on the street near the apartment building, when a silver sedan drove by her.

The car's male driver snatched her purse from her arm while the car was still moving. The car sped away, traveling north on Coffee

Tree Mall Street. The suspect car made a right turn on Micro Beach road and disappeared around the corner, traveling east. The incident occurred quickly. The victim and eyewitnesses could only make out a male driver in the suspect's car. Items

stolen include a yellow purse containing an iPhone 6S and \$20 cash.

DPS and Crime Stoppers need your help. Please contact the Crime Stoppers hotline at 234-7272 should you

want to remain anonymous or use its website at [www.nmicrimestoppers.net](http://www.nmicrimestoppers.net). Crime Stoppers pays up to \$1,000 for any information leading to an arrest. It pays to call. (**Crime Stoppers**)

### Matson opens new service to Marshall Islands

**HONOLULU**—Matson, Inc., a leading U.S. carrier in the Pacific, has announced that it will introduce a new direct U.S. flag service between Honolulu and the Republic of the Marshall Islands that will shorten cargo transit times to the RMI from the U.S. mainland by as many as eight days. The new biweekly service will call at three ports—Kwajalein, Ebeye, and Majuro—starting in the first quarter of 2018.

Matson has entered into an agreement to purchase a U.S.-flagged containership from Sealift, Inc., of Oyster Bay, NY, to operate the new service.

The vessel, to be renamed *Kamokuiki*, or "small island or vessel" in the Hawaiian language, was built in Germany in 2000 and brought under the U.S. flag in 2013. The ship will be fitted with two 45-ton cranes that can be joined to handle heavy lift cargoes before it is delivered to Matson in late 2017. The vessel will be well suited to the island trade with its small stature, two cranes, hy-

draulic folding hatch covers, and extreme maneuverability produced by a bow thruster and flap rudder, which allows docking without tugs.

Matson has served the Marshall Islands since 1972. It currently serves Kwajalein, Ebeye, and Majuro from the U.S. West Coast via Guam, where westbound containerized and bulk cargo is transhipped to Matson's Micronesia service. The new service from Honolulu will deliver cargo from the U.S. West Coast to Kwajalein, Ebeye, and Majuro with a transit time of approximately two weeks, depending on the West Coast port, compared to three weeks or more with the current service.

Along with unrivalled transit times, advantages of the new service include Matson's dedicated terminal operations at Seattle, Oakland and Long Beach, offering shippers late cut-off times, industry-leading truck turn times and use of Matson's extensive owned chassis inventory throughout the U.S. (**PR**)

## GRANDVIRIO RESORT SAIPAN

\* Breakfast: 7:00am-10:00am \* Lunch: 11:30am-2:00pm \* Sunday Brunch: 11:00am-2:00pm \* Dinner: 5:30pm-9:00pm



Welcome to enjoy fantastic buffet at our **Tropicana Restaurant** (2nd floor of Taga Tower).  
Performance is available on Sunday Brunch. All you can eat and drink! Sushi, Sashimi, Ham, Rib Eye, Champagne, beers...

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Breakfast Buffet \$17 <b>Sunday Brunch \$22</b> <b>Father's Day Brunch \$25</b> <b>Seafood &amp; Sushi Night</b> Reg.: \$35 (Local: \$25)	Breakfast Buffet \$17	Breakfast Buffet \$17 <b>Seafood &amp; Sushi Night</b> Reg.: \$35 (Local: \$25)	Breakfast Buffet \$17 <b>Buffet Lunch \$14</b> <b>Seafood &amp; Sushi Night</b> Reg.: \$35 (Local: \$25)	Breakfast Buffet \$17	Breakfast Buffet \$17 <b>Buffet Lunch \$14</b> <b>Seafood &amp; Sushi Night</b> Reg.: \$35 (Local: \$25)	Breakfast Buffet \$17 <b>Seafood &amp; Sushi Night</b> Reg.: \$35 (Local: \$25)



(10th floor of Crystal Tower in Grandvrio Resort Saipan)  
has reopened as A-La-Carte restaurant. Welcome to enjoy fast & nice Lunch Menu (\$8-) and authentic Japanese Shabu Shabu or Sukiyaki for your dinner (\$35). "Spectacular Ocean View and Sunset!"  
**Starting from Nov. 07, 2016, Dolphin restaurant brings out "Daily Chef's Special Lunch" from Mon. to Fri.; EVERYTHING IS DIFFERENT! \$12 only, 15 servings per day; "First In First Out!"**

Opening time:  
Everyday Lunch: 11:30am-2:00pm  
Last Order: 1:30pm  
Dinner 5:30pm-9:00pm  
Last Order: 8:30pm



**Dinner Buffet Location:**  
Poolside Price: Reg. AD \$39 CH: \$19  
(Local: AD \$35/ CH \$17)  
Business Hours: 6pm-9pm  
Menu: "All you can eat & drink"  
Beers, red & white wine, soft drinks, oolong tea and juices.



Come and taste delicious curry & sandwich set (\$7.00 only), cake, café latte, organic smoothies... with unique ocean view.

Business Hours: 10:00am-6:00pm  
**Pizza Set (\$10.00) available now!**



Business Hours: 1pm-10pm  
Last Order: 9:30pm  
Happy Hour: 4pm - 7pm

20% Discount available for all drinks including cocktails!



For reservation or inquiry, please call: 670-237-2527 or E-mail: [food.beverage@grandvrio-saipan.com](mailto:food.beverage@grandvrio-saipan.com)



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# FBI engages businesses in Guam

**HAGATNA, Guam**—The Honolulu Division of the Federal Bureau of Investigation hosted a joint information sharing conference yesterday for some of Guam's leading businesses.

This strategic partnership engagement conference was an opportunity for the FBI and other law enforcement entities to provide the state's leading industries with unique access to current threats facing the United States as well as specific issues facing Guam. It is part of a national effort lead by the FBI's Office of the Private Sector to build deeper and

more meaningful relationships with infrastructure, industry, and security stakeholders.

"Typically, law enforcement challenges are overcome by two elements: meaningful community relationships and coordinated law enforcement response," said FBI Honolulu assistant special agent in charge Tuan Nguyen. "The Executive Partnership Engagement Conference is an opportunity for our office in Guam to enhance both these dynamics. Our experience has shown that the time to build these relationships is not in the

midst of a crisis. This conference serves as a building block in establishing meaningful dialog between law enforcement and industry leaders."

During the conference, law enforcement subject matter experts briefed industry executives about trending threats in the areas of terrorism, counterintelligence, economic espionage, and cyber intrusions.

Nguyen noted, "We intend for this to be the next step in a long-term relationship we will have with infrastructure and industry in our community." **(FBI)**

*Back to school*

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2017 Honda HR-V LX 2WD MT retail price \$22,995.00 less 20% downpayment. Financing at 5.4% APR for 60 monthly payments of \$350.54 or \$161.79 per paycheck based on 26 pay periods per year. Total deferred payment \$21,032.40.





### HISTORY CONFERENCE

IT&E has donated \$3,000 to the Northern Marianas Humanities Council in support of the 3rd Marianas History Conference. Pictured from left are Michelle Camacho-Cruz, IT&E marketing coordinator; Hans Mickelson, IT&E marketing, wireless and roaming manager; Frankie M. Eliptico, Humanities Council board chair; and Scott Russell, Humanities Council executive director. The 3rd conference, with the theme "Milestones in Marianas History," will be held at the Fiesta Resort and Spa Saipan on Sept. 1-2, 2017. It will feature keynote addresses by Dr. Laura Torres Souder, Julian Aguon, and Dr. Carlos Madrid, and presentations by 35 local, regional, and international scholars. The conference is free of charge and open to the public. Contact council staff at 235-4785 for more information.

HUMANITIES COUNCIL

**Tan Holdings is dedicated to encourage and motivate community members to live a healthy lifestyle**

**How to register:**

- ✉ Email us for the registration form;
- 📄 Visit our Facebook page to download the form;
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**REGISTRATION FEE: \$20/PERSON**  
**DEADLINE TO REGISTER: AUGUST 14, 2017**

**AUGUST 19 - NOVEMBER 11, 2017**  
**2 MEMBERS PER TEAM**

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2ND PLACE	\$3,000	
3RD PLACE	\$1,000	
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**The U.S. Navy**  
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**Training and Testing**  
**Supplemental EIS/OEIS Process**

The U.S. Navy is preparing a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement (EIS/OEIS) to assess the potential environmental impacts associated with ongoing military readiness activities conducted within the Mariana Islands Training and Testing (MITT) EIS/OEIS Study Area. The supplement to the 2015 Final EIS/OEIS is being prepared to support ongoing and future activities conducted at sea and on Farallon de Medinilla (FDM) within the Study Area beyond 2020.

**Public Involvement Opportunity**

The Navy is requesting your comments on the scope of the analysis to be considered during the development of the Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS. Comments will be accepted online at [www.MITT-EIS.com](http://www.MITT-EIS.com), or by mail to:

Naval Facilities Engineering Command Pacific  
 Attention: MITT Supplemental EIS/OEIS Project Manager  
 258 Makalapa Drive, Suite 100  
 Pearl Harbor, HI 96860-3134

**All comments must be postmarked or received online by Sept. 11, 2017, Chamorro Standard Time (ChST), for consideration in the Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS.**



# New online shopping privileges for vets

The Department of Defense announced yesterday a policy change that will extend limited online military exchange shopping privileges to all honorably discharged veterans of the military.

The veterans online shopping benefit will be effective this Veterans Day, Nov. 11.

While shopping privileges exclude the purchase of uniforms, alcohol and tobacco products, it includes the Exchange Services' dynamic online retail environment known so well to service members and their families. This policy change follows careful analysis, coordination and strong

public support.

"We are excited to provide these benefits to honorably discharged veterans to recognize their service and welcome them home to their military family," said Peter Levine, performing the duties for the under secretary of defense for personnel and readiness.

"In addition, this initiative represents a low-risk, low-cost opportunity to help fund Morale, Welfare and Recreation programs in support of service members' and their families' quality of life. And it's just the right thing to do," Levine added.

The online benefit will also strengthen the exchanges' on-

line businesses to better serve current patrons. Inclusion of honorably discharged veterans would conservatively double the exchanges' online presence, thereby improving the experience for all patrons through improved vendor terms, more competitive merchandise assortments, and improved efficiencies, according to DoD officials.

"As a nation, we are grateful for the contributions of our service members. Offering this lifetime online benefit is one small, tangible way the nation can say, 'Thank you' to those who served with honor," Levine said. **(DOD)**

## Bordallo statement on war claims funding

**WASHINGTON, D.C.**— Delegate Madeleine Z. Bordallo (D-GU) issued the following statement yesterday, clarifying the availability of funds to pay war claims when the program filing period ends on June 20, 2018.

"I am committed to finding an alternative funding solution that will hold Guam's treasury harmless, but I want to clarify that funding will be available to pay war claims submitted by our *man'amko* and war survivors when the filing period ends in June of next year.

The Office of Insular Affairs clarified in May that the level of Section 30 funds collected by the federal government in 2014 was \$68,603,100, and 2014 collections by the federal government is what is referred to in the law. I share the strong concerns in our community regarding the use of Section 30 funds to pay claims but this was the only way to advance this bill given House Republican budget rules and strong opposition by Senate conservatives who objected each time this bill was considered


on the Senate floor.


"I do not want our *man'amko* to be concerned that they will not receive their claim after waiting more than 70 years. I am also working with the Treasury Department to get a definitive interpretation of Section 1703(c) of the war claims law. I hope that our local community will support my efforts and that we can address this issue with a 'One Guam' approach that was so critical to passing war claims legislation in the first place." **(PR)**

## ZIKA is linked to Microcephaly

Microcephaly is a serious birth defect that affects baby's brain.



 Zika Virus can cause microcephaly in unborn babies, causing abnormally small heads and brains

 While you are pregnant, delay or avoid travel to areas with Zika. If you must travel, do everything you can to avoid mosquito bites.

 You can avoid mosquito bites by using bug spray, wearing clothing to cover your arms and legs and sleeping under bed netting.



*Aedes aegypti* mosquito is a major vector for Zika virus



1 in 5 people infected with Zika virus will become ill



Baby with Typical Head Size



Baby with Microcephaly



Baby with Severe Microcephaly

Learn more at: 670-234-8950 ext. 2026  
www.chcc.gov.mp/index.php/division-of-public-health/bds



"This advertisement is funded from the US Department of Health and Human Services Office, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention - Division of Public Health Services - CNMI Birth Defects, Surveillance, Intervention, & Referral to Services (BDSIRS) Program".

Important Legal Notice from the United States  
District Court for the Southern District of Florida

## If you are a current or former owner or lessee of certain BMW, Mazda, Subaru, and Toyota vehicles, you could get cash and other benefits from a class action settlement.

Si desea recibir esta notificación en español, llámenos o visite nuestra página web.

Settlements have been reached in a class action lawsuit alleging that consumers sustained economic losses because they purchased or leased vehicles from various auto companies that manufactured, distributed, or sold vehicles containing allegedly defective airbags manufactured by Takata Corporation and its affiliates. The Settlements include certain vehicles made by BMW, Mazda, Subaru, and Toyota (the "Subject Vehicles"). BMW, Mazda, Subaru, and Toyota deny any and all allegations of wrongdoing and the Court has not decided who is right.

**If you have already received a separate recall notice for your BMW, Mazda, Subaru, or Toyota vehicle requesting that you bring it to your local retailer to have the Takata airbags repaired and have not yet done so, you should contact your local retailer to make an appointment for this repair as soon as possible.** Some vehicles will be recalled for repair at a later date, and some vehicles may not be recalled. **When recalled Takata airbags deploy, they may spray metal debris toward vehicle occupants and may cause serious injury.** Please see your original recall notices and [www.AirBagRecall.com](http://www.AirBagRecall.com) for further details.

**Am I included in the proposed Settlements?** The Settlements include the following persons and entities:

- Owners or lessees, as of June 9, 2017, of a Subject Vehicle that was distributed for sale or lease in the United States or any of its territories or possessions, and
- Former owners or lessees of a Subject Vehicle that was distributed for sale or lease in the United States or any of its territories or possessions, who, between April 11, 2013 and June 9, 2017, sold or returned pursuant to a lease, a Subject Vehicle that was recalled before June 9, 2017.

A full list of the Subject Vehicles can be found at [www.AutoAirbagSettlement.com](http://www.AutoAirbagSettlement.com). The Settlements do not involve claims of personal injury or property damage to any property other than the Subject Vehicles.

**What do the Settlements provide?** BMW, Mazda, Subaru, and Toyota have agreed to Settlements with a combined value of approximately \$553 million, including a 10% credit for Rental Car/Loaner Programs. The Settlement Funds will be used to pay for Settlement benefits and cover the costs of the Settlements over an approximately four-year period.

The Settlements offer several benefits for Class Members, including, (1) payments for certain out-of-pocket expenses incurred related to a Takata airbag recall of a Subject Vehicle, (2) a Rental Car/Loaner Program while certain Subject Vehicles are awaiting repair, (3) an Outreach Program to maximize completion of the recall remedy, (4) additional cash payments to Class Members from residual settlement funds, if any remain, and (5) a Customer Support Program to help with repairs associated with affected Takata airbag inflators and their replacements. The Settlement website explains each of these benefits in detail.

**How can I get a Payment?** You must file a claim to receive a payment during the first four years of the Settlements. If you still own or lease a Subject Vehicle, you must also bring it to an authorized dealership for the recall remedy, as directed by a recall notice, if you have not already done so. Visit the website and file a claim online or download one and file by mail. The deadline to file a claim will be at least one year from the date the Settlements are finalized and will be posted on the website when it's known.

**What are my other options?** If you do not want to be legally bound by the Settlements, you must exclude yourself by **September 25, 2017**. If you do not exclude yourself, you will release any claims you may have against BMW, Mazda, Subaru, and Toyota, in exchange for certain settlement benefits. The potential available benefits are more fully described in the Settlements, available at the settlement website. You may object to the Settlements by **September 25, 2017**. You cannot both exclude yourself from, and object to, the Settlements. The Long Form Notices for each Settlement available on the website listed below explains how to exclude yourself or object. The Court will hold a fairness hearing on **October 25, 2017** to consider whether to finally approve the Settlements and a request for attorneys' fees of up to 30% of the total Settlement Amount and incentive awards of \$5,000 for each of the Class Representatives. You may appear at the fairness hearing, either by yourself or through an attorney hired by you, but you don't have to. For more information, including the relief, eligibility and release of claims (excluding certain personal injury or property damage claims), in English or Spanish, call or visit the website below.

**1-888-735-5596 • [www.AutoAirbagSettlement.com](http://www.AutoAirbagSettlement.com)**



# Opinion

Hafa Adair

## Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

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### EDITORIAL

## Poland pulls back: An assault on courts is stopped, for now at least

**W**hy is Poland steering to the right, away from greater freedoms? Why is Hungary taking that path as well?

Poland has just, for the moment anyway, avoided a disaster in one area. President Andrzej Duda vetoed two out of three bills that would have stifled the country's courts, putting them under partisan political control.

It's significant that Duda is a member of the right-wing Law and Justice Party, which holds a majority in the parliament and passed the offending legislation.

So what's the idea?

Some dewy-eyed Poles and Americans put this so-far fizzled political putsch down to President Donald Trump. He visited Poland earlier this month and praised the country, rightly, for the people's courage in the face of Nazi and then communist oppression. But the speech, all in all, was somewhat over the top. Poles respect America, but not that much.

In fact, in attempting to put its courts out of serious law-and-order business, the Law and Justice Party government risked bringing down the wrath of the European Union, which raised the specter of sanctions on Poland.

The EU has high respect for Poland, making its former prime minister, Donald F. Tusk, president of the European Council and having provided Poland prodigious amounts of development aid over the years, to try to bring its economic state up to the level of the primary EU states, France and Germany.

There is no gainsaying the fact that Poland has been in an unenviable geographic position over the years, between Germany and Russia, and, before that, Prussia, Russia and the Austro-Hungarian Empire.

None of those entities had been shy about dominating Poland and seizing pieces of its territory.

But now, with the Soviet-directed Warsaw Pact gone, Poland in NATO with its guarantee of a collective response to any outside attack, and Poland's economy in relatively healthy shape, the argument of insecurity as a justification for hammering down freedoms simply does not hold.

Nor does it hold for Hungary, which has the same guarantees and also a sometimes freedom-averse government under Viktor Orban.

Passing legislation that harkens back to the bad old pre-World War II days of nationalistic, near-fascist governments that tolerated pogroms does not do honor to the best of Poland, the Chopins, the Kosciuskos and Pulaskis who helped America, and the courageous Poles who continued to defy the Nazis and the communists.

Duda held the line for freedom this time, but he really shouldn't have to.

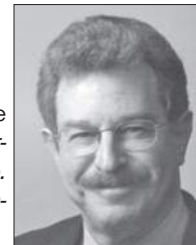
(c)2017 Pittsburgh Post-Gazette



## Here's the real story behind McCain's greatest Senate moment

By **MARTIN SCHRAM**  
Tribune News Service

*Martin Schram, an op-ed columnist for Tribune News Service, is a veteran Washington journalist, author and TV documentary executive. Readers may send him email at martin.schram@gmail.com.*



**T**oday I intend to reveal and reflect upon the real story behind John McCain's greatest moment as a United States senator.

And no, I'm not talking here about the Arizona Republican's historically vital and emotionally compelling speech on the Senate floor Tuesday, just 11 days after being operated on for a very aggressive form of brain cancer. McCain summoned the strength and patriotism to excoriate his fellow senators for their partisan failures of leadership and citizenship, as the Senate still flounders over what (if anything) it will do to resolve America's health care crisis.

From my perspective, that overwhelming day was the second-most memorable moment of McCain's impressive 30-year Senate career. But I want to tell you about another McCain happening that remains, to me, the iconic symbol of what American politics could always be at its very best. It occurred two decades ago, early in the presidency of Bill Clinton. It was NOT witnessed by a full chamber of standing, applauding, well-wishing senators; and not seen by a national television audience. It was witnessed, in its entirety, by an audience of just one. Yes, me.

President Clinton had just announced a federal judicial nomination, and before we go on, you need to recall this was an era when Washington's partisan nerve-endings were still raw after Senate Democrats had waged a philosophic battle to reject President Ronald Reagan's Supreme Court nomination of Robert Bork. Finally, there was a Democratic president; many Republicans were in a retribution state of mind.

Late one afternoon, McCain hurried onto the floor of the near-empty Senate chamber and sought to shoot down Clinton's federal judgeship nominee in a manner we'd never seen: He read into the Congressional Record the Clinton nominee's highly confidential U.S. military psychiatric profile. Importantly: It is illegal to disseminate such personal psychiatric or medical information; but senators enjoy immunity that permits them to say anything on the Senate floor without fear of prosecution.

So McCain publicized the fact that, while serving his country's military decades earlier, the nominee had sought psychiatric counseling. Never mind that the nominee went on to have a highly praised judicial career.

In those years, I was writing my newspaper column and also doing CNN commentaries. I telephoned his press secretary and

said I was about to deliver a sharply critical CNN commentary of what McCain had done and that night would file an equally critical column. I asked if McCain (whom I barely knew then) wanted to explain why he had committed this outrageous violation of privacy — but added nothing he could say would cause me to cancel the commentary. McCain's office never called back. My sharply critical commentary aired, my column was dispatched nationwide.

I expected I'd get the usual angry call — and maybe a letter to newspaper editors from the senator's office the next morning. Indeed, early the next morning, my phone rang.

"Hi, Marty. John McCain." The senator's voice was surprisingly low-keyed. He said he'd seen my commentary — then he shocked me by saying he agreed with my harsh criticism. He actually thanked me for having said it — adding he was ashamed of what he had done!

That was the moment I really met this rarest of politicians. McCain went on to explain why he had done what he did — he had only been thinking of how the Democrats had torpedoed Reagan's Bork nomination — now he finally had something to even the score. All he could think of, he said, was racing to the Senate floor in time to get coverage on the ABC, CBS and NBC nightly news.

Again, McCain (who endured torture as a prisoner of war in North Vietnam) said he was so ashamed of how he violated the nominee's privacy. He promised he'd never make that mistake again. Then McCain asked me if I was free to join him for lunch at noon in the Senate dining room.

We lunched. In the end, we check-wrestled (I insisted, claiming journalistic ethics, and bought). In between, we briefly rehashed the incident. But we quickly rolled on to other issues. Especially how crazy Washington had become.

In decades of covering politicians, I'd become used to being counter-attacked, frozen-out and more. But I'd never encountered a politician who responded to hard-hitting straight reporting or criticism in the way McCain did. Not before, not since.

McCain and I don't pal around Washington. Never did. Sometimes I still criticize things he's said or done. But he's all that's left of Washington's old school best. Now more than ever, we need my friend McCain to stay right where he is.



**EDITORIAL POLICY**

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

## No big bag is too small

I decided to extend my great American road trip. I've been doing a lot of driving in the hinterlands. The last time I was out here was two years ago. That's when a friend from Saipan engaged me to help market his mainland business to the outside world. We axed his old advertising and wrote some new material. Since you're along for the ride, I'll hand you a piece of beef jerky and I'll pretty much tell you what I told my friend about this advertising thing.

As we drive these quiet highways the small-business ads on the AM radio are fading in and fading out. The businesses change. The cities change. The states change. The wording in the ads, however, doesn't seem to change at all.

Here's one factor that underlies all communications: What most of us say is merely a replay of what we heard somebody else say. Speech is largely mimicry. This makes sense, of course, since communications is really an exercise in heeding conventions.

Unfortunately, in the world of advertising, it can be a trap.

While mimicry is a useful act of camouflage in many settings, allowing us to blend in with the faceless herd, hiding with the herd is not usually the goal of an advertisement.

With this in mind, I'll mention two phrases I've been hearing for at least 40 years, and, for that matter, that I've been hearing for the past 40 minutes: (1) "No job too big, no job too small," and, (2) "Highest quality. Lowest prices."

Are these claims convincing? I'll admit I have some doubts.

*'While mimicry is a useful act of camouflage in many settings, allowing us to blend in with the faceless herd, hiding with the herd is not usually the goal of an advertisement.'*

In the first case, every project I've been involved with (in a variety of industries) had a definite relationship between scale and viability. Some jobs were indeed too big. Some jobs were indeed too small. A vendor who, by contrast, has infinite elasticity of scale would be very impressive, but I don't know any buyers who would accept such a representation at face value.

And in the second case, asserting that the cheapest is also the best is swimming against the default setting of most markets. More to the point, it's swimming against the default expectations of most consumers, so it's probably a statement that would be more effectively replaced with some facts. In other words, show, don't tell.

There are, of course, cases in which the lowest price does provide the highest, or at least very high, quality. When the Japanese carmakers conquered the U.S. market in the 1970s they were offering low prices and high quality. Not by mere coincidence, the Japanese were (and are) famously skilled advertisers. They were (and are) able to get their message across to American consumers. They didn't do this, however, by merely parroting clichés.

Incidentally, there are all sorts of empty buzzwords and phrases circulating out there. I didn't single out the two at hand for any special reason. They merely serve as examples of the breed.

Why do such phrases endure? Probably because the users think they sound "businesslike" or "professional."

If, say, a 30-second radio spot has to be filled with words, then what's going to be said? On average, the same thing that ev-

By **ED STEPHENS**

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Visit Ed Stephens Jr. at [EdStephensJr.com](http://EdStephensJr.com). All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the Saipan Tribune.



erybody else is saying. That's a remarkably narrow band. It's probably a power law distribution in which a few key items (buzzwords) dominate the entire field. It's no coincidence that one of the pioneers behind the analysis of power law distributions, George Zipf, was, in fact, a linguist.

There are several ways around this trap. In general, I think the most effective way to phrase an ad is not to try to sound like what you think a "professional" should sound like. Instead, just lay out the words like you're describing your business, in one sentence, to a new acquaintance at a church coffee hour or a similarly polite, but not stuffy, venue. Present a few basic facts instead of rehashing the outside world's clichés. This approach might not win the entire battle, but it's a good way to set the tone, at least for a first draft.

After all, plain speaking is so rare that it's not so plain anymore.

And, plainly stated, I'm done with this topic for now. I've switched the radio to the FM side. It's time to enjoy some Merle Haggard as I finish off this bag of beef jerky. I love this stuff. No bag is too big, and no big bag is too small, or, uh, something like that.

## The journey to justice

The settlement agreement we've worked out with the AG's Office brings the \$400,000 MV *Rota Luta* Mermaid case to the halfway mark.

The restitution of the \$400K would be taken up separately in court. We want every penny paid even if it means going after every property owned by the principals of the firm and the evil genius behind the scheme.

The road to justice, though, is difficult and woefully costly. The conviction to protect the innocent prompted my stepping up to the plate to resolve the matter.

The arrogance of ignorance and whimsical habitual appropriation by resolution is history! It would do legislators tons of good if you secure a copy of the agreement so you revisit where you've been humiliatingly ignorant and negligent. It also strengthens the ethics law holding public officials to stricter accountability for illegal activities in office.

The doctrine of legislative immunity isn't a carte blanche ticket to hide from illegal activities after your term. It prevents legislators from "being sued for actions performed and decisions made in the course of serving in government. But it does not protect legislators from criminal prosecution, nor does it relieve them of responsibility for actions outside the scope of their office.

The issue of restitution is unprecedented in the sense that this is the first time that public funds were expropriated directly to a private firm by an evil genius. I'd like to see what the public auditor's report found on this score.

You may have a different view of the settlement agreement. But there's a difference between cheerleading and the boxer who gets pounded in the ring. I think it's called reality check!

We'd go after what they've got, including the rumored purchases of new properties and houses in Idaho and Florida. The expropriation of taxpayers' money is ugly in both form and substance.

Finally, it's a litigation that is actually a collective citizenry duty. I've done my share and I'd leave the rest to others when something else pops up ahead. It has been a pleasure.

**MW Debacle:** The recent discussion of plans to raise the minimum wage in Guam reveals the gap between public and private

sector salaries. While the cost of goods has gone up by some 30 percent, salaries in the public sector were concurrently raised. Salaries in private industries remained stagnant.

Here at home, public officials have given themselves a salary increase by 50 percent. Legislators would be making some \$89,250 per year. You subtract the poverty income level against the new salary and they are still ahead by as much as \$61,000.

How did they miss the more than 13,000-plus employees stuck with their poverty income level and below salaries for over 20 years? Perhaps they have their own convoluted excuses to share with the multitude how they overlook the needs of a majority of hardworking employees, *di ba?*

**Memories:** In my golden years, I took a quick trip down memory lane to see the happy faces of folks I've met over the years across the vast expanse of the Pacific. Yes, I've been to a number of island countries during my stint as the NMI delegate to the South Pacific Community.

Each has its own unique features that stand out prominently. If anything, there's a common denominator among island communities: communal sharing. It's the single fiber that held islanders together through thick and thin for generations. Yep! We've sailed the same canoe since time immemorial!

I've enjoyed island ceremonies where we hear the wisdom of the wise man of the village or traditional chief. Then everybody attends to the feast at hand. Young coconut is given delegates to refresh themselves after a long journey. Very thoughtful gesture!

In their humble ways, independent island countries make do with what they generate at home, annually. Some have sought financial assistance from regional bodies like the Asian Development Bank. Otherwise, the people stick to their traditional way of life between gardening small arable land and fishing. We did this long before we started working for the Navy after the war.

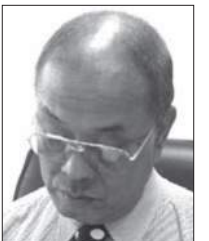
Remember the "in thing" in the late '50s and early '60s that if you could bang a Royal or Underwood manual typewriter, you've made the American Dream? Sadly, that wasn't it, right?

The NMI is fortunate to have a wealthy benefactor known as Washington, D.C. The SPC is funded by donor countries, e.g., Great Britain, France, the U.S., and Australia. Other fiscally

By **JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.**

Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands.



poised economies have also contributed to the fund.

It was also a pleasure representing the NMI in the Economic and Social Commission of Asia and the Pacific with Dr. Jack Tenorio. Had to deal with international relations issues, their magnitude being far larger and complicated than provincial ones at home.

The ambassador of Fiji had me working on the Economics Committee of ESCAP. He wanted me to get my feet wet, so to speak, to see how delegates address matters of national concerns in their collective dealings. Issues are substantive than the usual provincialism here.

The conduct of both organizations grants you the opportunity to deal with issues dealing with the forest over the trees. And it teaches you to review related materials so you understand them before any discussion takes place. I relish the learning experience. Enjoyed that part of my career working with the leadership who came from "The Sea of Islands" and have benefited tremendously from their calm intellectual discussions and timeless wisdom.

**Anybody Home?** When folks give you the "I don't know Maria" expression straight from the heart, it's a simple message that something isn't right at home. In fact, they are looking for leadership in hopes of finding some semblance of hope and confidence in their future.

Indeed, the widespread sense of suspect quietude all over the archipelago is itself troubling as more of our very own head to jetways in search of greener pasture abroad. Sad, isn't it?



# The Weather

## 5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY

Mostly sunny with isolated showers. Southwest winds 10 to 15 mph.

▲89° ▼79°

SATURDAY

Partly cloudy. Isolated showers. Southwest winds 10 to 15 mph.

▲88° ▼78°

SUNDAY

Partly cloudy with isolated showers.

▲88° ▼78°

MONDAY

Partly cloudy with isolated showers.

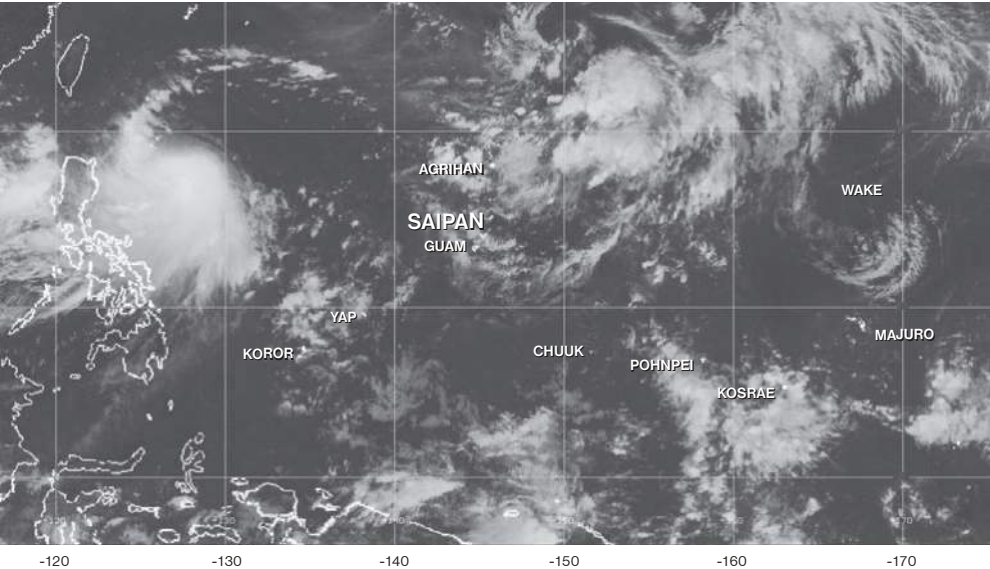
▲88° ▼78°

TUESDAY

Partly cloudy with isolated showers.

▲88° ▼78°

## YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 7:24 AM, THURSDAY, JULY 27, 2017

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Observations from the Marianas showed winds to be light and variable. Radar VAD wind profile indicated winds at 2000 ft from the southwest at around 5 mph. Sounding data from last night showed that moisture increased slightly from yesterday afternoon to last night. The light winds and available moisture produced afternoon scattered showers across the islands of the Marianas on Wednesday, and since conditions are similar expect afternoon scattered showers across the islands today. Light southwest winds will continue for at least the next ten days. Models show deep layer moisture decreasing Friday and remaining low through at least Sunday so only expect isolated showers, even during the afternoon hours this weekend.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: [www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/](http://www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/)

MICRONESIA			▲▼°F
Guam and Rota	Thunderstorms	87° / 80°	
Palau	Rain	83° / 78°	
Yap	Showers	86° / 79°	
Chuuk	Partly Cloudy	87° / 80°	
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	86° / 79°	
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	86° / 79°	
Majuro	Thunderstorms	84° / 80°	

AROUND THE GLOBE			▲▼°F
Auckland	Mostly Sunny	52° / 43°	
Beijing	Partly Cloudy	84° / 66°	
Hong Kong	Partly Cloudy	91° / 82°	
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	86° / 75°	
London	Mostly Cloudy	66° / 61°	
Los Angeles	Sunny	85° / 67°	
Manila	Rain	84° / 79°	
Melbourne	Windy	63° / 48°	
Miami	Thunderstorms	88° / 81°	
New York	Thunderstorms	83° / 67°	
Osaka	Thunderstorms	91° / 81°	
Paris	Showers	82° / 75°	
Busan	Partly Cloudy	86° / 77°	
Rome	Partly Cloudy	86° / 72°	
Salem	Partly Cloudy	92° / 74°	
San Francisco	Sunny	64° / 53°	
Seoul	Thunderstorms	88° / 73°	
Tokyo	Showers	88° / 79°	
Washington, DC	Thunderstorms	82° / 69°	

### NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- \*11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at [www.nmicrimestoppers.net](http://www.nmicrimestoppers.net)

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY			FEET
5:38 AM	LOW TIDE	0.75	
10:44 AM	HIGH TIDE	1.67	
5:31 PM	LOW TIDE	0.20	
11:59 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.91	

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	5:58 AM	6:48 PM
Saturday	5:58 AM	6:48 PM
Sunday	5:58 AM	6:47 PM
Monday	5:59 AM	6:47 PM
Tuesday	5:59 AM	6:47 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	10:15 AM	10:37 PM	-
Saturday	11:05 AM	11:18 PM	-
Sunday	11:55 AM	11:58 PM	-
Monday	12:43 PM	-	-
Tuesday	-	12:38 AM	1:32 PM

**NEWS DESK** For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: [editor@saipantribune.com](mailto:editor@saipantribune.com). Website:[www.saipantribune.com](http://www.saipantribune.com).

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**ADVERTISING** For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: [sales@saipantribune.com](mailto:sales@saipantribune.com)

### FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JULY 22, 2017

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA63944:15am	5:05am	Daily		UA6393	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA6392	8:40am	9:30am	Daily	UA6395	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
UA6391	1:30pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota	UA6391	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA6390	2:20pm	3:10pm	2, 3, 6	UA6390	12:10pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6 via Rota
UA6398	6:05pm	6:55pm	Daily	UA6397	4:45pm	5:35pm	Daily
UA6396	9:50pm	10:40pm	Daily	UA6399	8:30pm	9:20pm	Daily
SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)				GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)			
UA6391	1:30pm	2:05pm	1, 4, 5, 7	UA6390	12:10pm	12:45pm	2, 3, 6
ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)				ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN			
UA6391	2:35pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7	UA6390	1:15pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)				SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
TW308	1:35am	5:20am	2, 3, 4	7C3402	9:30am	3:00pm	Daily
OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1	ZE581	10:10am	3:55pm	Daily
TW308	2:35am	6:20am	6, 7	TW307	7:05pm	12:35am+1	1, 2, 3
OZ626	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	OZ625	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
7C3403	4:45am	8:30am	Daily	TW307	8:05pm	1:35am+1	5, 6
LJ652	4:45am	8:35am	Daily	OZ625	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
7C3401	4:00pm	7:45pm	Daily	7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily
ZE582	4:45pm	8:35pm	Daily	LJ651	10:00pm	3:30am+1	Daily
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)				BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
7C3451	3:10am	6:10am	1, 7	7C3452	9:00pm	2:10am+1	4
OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7	OZ607	9:05pm	1:55am+1	3, 6
7C3451	4:00am	7:05am	4, 5	7C3452	9:05pm	2:10am+1	3, 6, 7
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)				SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
3U8648	5:20am	8:00am	1, 4, 5, 7	3U8647	10:20pm	4:30am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)				GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6	3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5
SAIPAN-HANGZHOU (HGH)				HANGZHOU (HGH)-SAIPAN			
JD396	7:00am	10:25am	1	JD395	8:10am	3:30pm	4
JD396	4:50pm	8:15pm	4	JD395	10:05pm	5:30am+1	7
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)				BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN			
MU764	1:30am	6:35am	1, 3, 5, 7	MU763	4:25pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)				NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
DL297	4:15pm	7:00pm	Daily	DL298	10:20am	2:50pm	Daily
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
OZ626/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN	UA190/6397	9:55am	5:35pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ626/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
UA6394/191	4:15am	8:55am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM	OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	9:00am	1, 2, 4, 6 via GUM	PR1571	9:20pm	3:40am+1	3, 7
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	9:15am	3, 5, 7 via GUM	UA192/6395	9:45pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
PR1572	4:40am	6:45am	1, 4	UA184/6395	10:25pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA6391/183	1:30pm	8:50pm	5 via Rota-GUM	PR110/UA6395	10:55pm	8:05am+1	Daily via GUM
UA6391/183	1:30pm	9:10pm	1, 4, 7 via Rota-GUM	UA184/6395	11:30pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM
UA6391/193	1:30pm	10:40pm	5 via Rota-GUM-ROR				
UA6390/183	2:20pm	8:50pm	2 via GUM				
UA6390/183	2:20pm	9:10pm	3, 6 via GUM				
UA6390/193	2:20pm	10:40pm	2 via GUM-ROR				
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)				HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN			
HX077	2:00am	5:00am	1, 4	OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:20am	11:40am	1 via ICN	OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:40am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	U042	4:50pm	12:05am+1	2, 6
U043	4:40am	8:10am	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7	HX076	5:20pm	12:30am+1	3, 7
UA6391/159	1:30pm	9:50pm	1, 5 via Rota-GUM	U042	6:05pm	1:10am+1	1
UA6390/159	2:20pm	9:50pm	3, 6 via GUM	U042	6:10pm	1:00am+1	3
				U042	6:10pm	1:10am+1	4
				U042	6:40pm	2:00am+1	7
				UA116/6395	10:45pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U Sichuan Airlines, 7C Jeju Air, DL Delta Airlines, JD Beijing Capital, UO HK Express, HX HongKong Airlines, LJ Jin Air, MU China Eastern, OZ Asiana Airlines, TW t'way Air, UA United Airlines, ZE Eastar Jet, PR PAL Express; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.			
SAIPAN TO ROTA			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1301	7:30AM	8:00AM	Daily
1302	11:30AM	12:00PM	Daily
1303	4:00PM	4:30PM	Daily
ROTA TO SAIPAN			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3101	8:15AM	8:45AM	Daily
3102	1:45PM	2:15PM	Daily
3103	4:45PM	5:15PM	Daily
ROTA TO GUAM			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3401	12:15PM	12:45PM	Daily
GUAM TO ROTA			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
4301	1:00PM	1:30PM	Daily
SAIPAN TO TINIAN			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1201	7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily
1202	8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily
1203	9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily





Guam Territorial Band members stand with Maximo Ronquillo Jr., chief band director, and Landon Aydtlett, public relations officer, during a Håfa Adai Pledge ceremony on Monday, July 24, 2017. The Håfa Adai Pledge program is a cornerstone of the Guam Visitors Bureau's local community branding campaign.


GUAM VISITORS BUREAU

## Band marks Guam LibDay with Håfa Adai Pledge, concert

The Guam Visitors Bureau announced yesterday that the Guam Territorial Band became an official member of the Håfa Adai Pledge program last July 24 at Micronesia Mall. The signing-ceremony preceded the 2017 Guam Liberation concert series.

Established in 1976, the Guam Territorial Band provides musical service to the island and is a second home for members of early adolescence to senior citizens. The band has represented Guam on a number of tours to many countries and, most recently, performed at Carnegie Hall in New York City.

The Håfa Adai Pledge program is a cornerstone of the GVB's local community branding campaign. Since its inception in 2009, the Håfa Adai Pledge program has grown steadily both in numbers of participants as well as the content of individual pledges. To date, over 700 private businesses, government agencies, non-profits and other organizations have joined the Håfa Adai Pledge program. (PR)



# NMPASI

NORTHERN MARIANAS PROTECTION & ADVOCACY SYSTEMS, INC.

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## REQUEST FOR COMMENTS

NMPASI hereby seeks comments and/or suggestions from the community on how to improve upon its proposed Statement of Goals & Priorities for fiscal year 2018 as follows:

**Northern Marianas Protection & Advocacy Systems, Inc. (NMPASI)**

## STATEMENT OF GOALS AND PRIORITIES

(FY 2018)

[CLIENT / COMMUNITY SERVICES]

**GOAL 1: To provide legally-based advocacy services on behalf of individuals with disabilities and their families in the CNMI.**

**Priority 1.1:**

**Priority 1.2:**

**Priority 1.3:**

Facilitate appropriate advocacy and provide direct representation for eligible individuals with disabilities in the community (at least one more than the previous fiscal year).

Facilitate sufficient technical assistance to individuals with disabilities, family members of individuals with disabilities and other members of the general community at large.

Facilitate appropriate representation for un/underserved individuals with disabilities (including but not limited to those living in institutions or other housing facilities).

**GOAL 2: To advance the understanding of and appreciation for Protection & Advocacy services and disability-related issues in the CNMI.**

**Priority 2.1:**

**Priority 2.2:**

**Priority 2.3:**

Facilitate opportunities for the community to engage in learning about disability-related issues.

Promote the understanding of local and federal disability laws.

Foster local capacity in self-advocacy for individuals with disabilities.

[ADMINISTRATION/OPERATIONS]

**GOAL 3: To enhance the quality of protection & advocacy services and the efficiency of the organization's operations.**

**Priority 3.1:**

**Priority 3.2:**

**Priority 3.3:**

Maintain an efficient, effective and legally-compliant administrative operation.

Maintain an effective, diverse and knowledgeable staff and board of directors.

Ensure sufficient and sustainable funding in support of organization's mission.

For anything further, please feel free to contact the NMPASI Office at (670) 235-7273/4 [tel.] / 235-7275 [fax] / 235-7278 [tty] or contact us on-line at [www.nmpasi.org](http://www.nmpasi.org).

\*NMPASI, a local non-profit organization, administers grant funds from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS)/Center for Mental Health Services (CMHS)/Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), the Administration on Developmental Disabilities (ADD), and the Human Resources Services Administration (HRSA), the U.S. Department of Education (DOE)/Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA), and the Social Security Administration (SSA).

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**BUSINESS HOURS:**  
**Monday to Saturday**  
**8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.**









**Kanoa Resort**  
Saipan




# Sunday Family Lunch

## @ Isla Café Restaurant

### with POOL ACCESS until 6pm

**Sundays, starting July 30, 2017**  
**11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.**

**\$29.00 Adults**  
**\$21.00 Kids (4-11 years old)**

**\*promotion ONLY valid with a VALID CNMI ID**

*Treat the whole family to a sumptuous lunch with pool access!*

**For reservations, please call 234-6601 ext. 742/743**

## Brunch with pool access at the Kanoa Resort

By JON PEREZ  
jon\_perez@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Enjoy the sand on your feet as you walk barefoot at Kanoa Resort's beachfront and spend the remaining days of summer at one of the best seashores on Saipan.

The resort has a lot to offer for residents who want a short getaway without the added expense of going off island. One can choose from a number of restaurants and bars, or take part in the various sports and recreational activities that Kanoa Resort has lined up for its guests.

Have a leisurely brunch at Isla Café or Isla Terrace, watch the sunset and the gentle waves at Barefoot Beach Bar and Barefoot BBQ, test your karaoke skills at the Nami Lounge, or try Lady Luck at Club C, the islands' first electronic gaming destination. There's also the food fair at the hotel lobby every Fridays and Saturdays.

Kanoa Resort is inviting everyone to try their Sunday Family Lunch promo at Isla Café Restaurant, which includes pool access up to 6pm.

Lunch buffet is \$29 for adults and \$21 for children ages 4 to 11 years old.

Come and treat the whole family to delicious food that comes with free access to the pool and water slides. The promo starts on July 30 from 11am to 2pm and open to those with a valid CNMI ID.

Kanoa Resort has two swimming pools that span half the length of the entire hotel where kids and kids-at-heart can frolic on the water-slides. Relaxing lounges can also be found poolside while colorful beach umbrellas are lined up along the hotel's beachfront.

One can also check out the other sports and recreation activities at the Adventure Zone—orbis, mini golf, water-sports, and kids' fun zone. The fun zone is a poolside playroom that has a bounce house and other interactive games for the little ones.

You can end the day watching the sunset and the local dance show at the oceanfront Barefoot Beach BBQ.

For reservations and more information, call 234-6601 ext. 742 or 743.





# Enjoy the Fiesta way

By JON PEREZ  
jon\_perez@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Who says you have to break the bank to go on a short vacation? A staycation at one of the island's leading resort, the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan, promises a relaxing treat without the hassle and expense of flying out of Saipan. It's even better with a host of promotional offers this summer!

Guests who avail of the Fiesta's Sunday Brunch promo at the World Café can cool off the afternoon heat as the buffet includes a complimentary pool pass.

Fiesta has three swimming pools, including the one at the Kids' Club, which opens at 9am daily. The kids and North side pools close at



6pm while the South pool is open until 10pm.

The swimming pools are right in the middle of a tropical garden, where a gentle breeze may touch your skin. Tired of swimming? One can relax in one of the several lounges around the pool.

Fiesta is conveniently located in the heart of Garapan's



tourist district, making it easy for visitors to enjoy all that Saipan has to offer.

They also offer other dining options: World Café Terrace, Godfather's Beach House Bar, Chambre Bar, Mai Teppanyaki, and Joyful Dinner Show, which features various Pacific Island dances.

Or join the sports and recreation activities like water aerobics, water basketball, table tennis, billiards, tennis hard court, oversize chess, and beach volleyball.

Fiesta is also home to SeaTouch, which allows you to interact with stingrays, and they also make it easy to book



an off-roading adventure with Let's Go.

Ni'lala Spa offers a tranquil getaway from the hustle and bustle of daily life. Give your mind, body, and soul the

relaxation it need surrounded by palm trees and the sound of the nearby sea.

For reservations and more information, call 234-6414 ext. 1548 or 233-6414 or 483-0462.

## Live the Fiesta Way!



### Sunday Brunch @ World Cafe

11:00am to 2:00pm

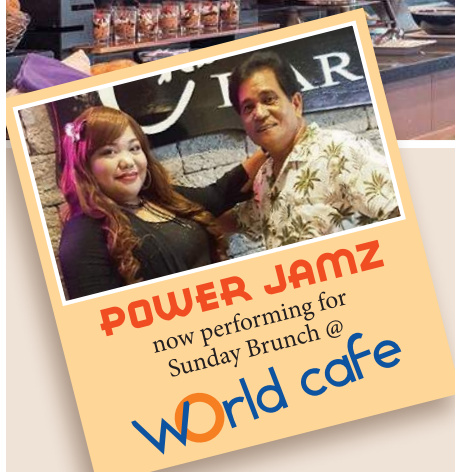
Adult \$40 and Children \$20 (ages 4-11)

Resident price is available

with Complimentary Pool Pass

**FIESTA**  
Resort & SPA  
SAIPAN  
A TanHoldings Company

For reservations and inquiries, please call 234-6414 ext. 1548 / 233-6414/483-0462





# IPI helps Kagman High clean up school

From July 20 to 26 Imperial Pacific International Ltd.'s Corporate Social Responsibility team conducted extensive facelift and restoration exterior work at Kagman High School.

The work included painting of building surfaces, railings, and water blasting of hallways.

This is the second year that Kagman High School has reached out to IPI's Corporate Social Responsibility group. (PR)



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO  
Imperial Pacific International Ltd.'s Corporate Social Responsibility provided the manpower support in the facelift work.

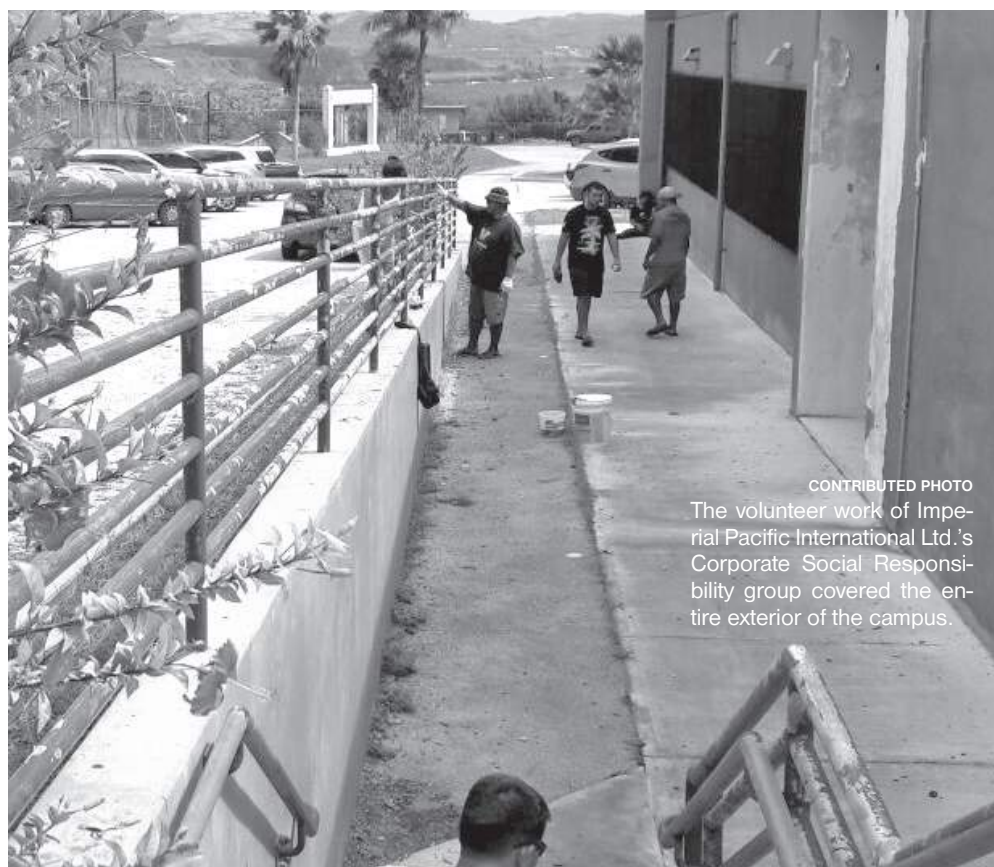


CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

This is the second year that the School Pride Project Program was implemented at Kagman High School.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO  
Imperial Pacific International Ltd.'s Corporate Social Responsibility team was full force in its School Pride Project work at KHS.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The volunteer work of Imperial Pacific International Ltd.'s Corporate Social Responsibility group covered the entire exterior of the campus.



CNMI DEPARTMENT  
OF COMMERCE



CDA COMMONWEALTH  
DEVELOPMENT  
AUTHORITY

## FREE Small Business Development Workshops

### How to Write a Business Plan

Thursday, August 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2017

8:30am—11:00am

Location: CDA Board Room,  
1<sup>st</sup> Floor, San Jose

Presented by:  
Nicole Babauta, CNMI SBDC Director/Business Advisor



This seminar will cover all of the elements to be included in a business plan, & explain with examples what is required in each section. The focus of the seminar will be the three M's – Money, Management & Marketing. Participants will also be provided with a sample business plan, sources of industry research information, and introduced to online business planning tools that are accessible at any time through an internet-enabled PC.

Limited Seating.

Register now at: [pisbdcn.ecenterdirect.com](http://pisbdcn.ecenterdirect.com)

For more information or to reserve your seats today, contact the CNMI SBDC  
at 670-664-3018 or visit [www.pacificsbdc.com](http://www.pacificsbdc.com)

DISCLAIMER: The Pacific Islands SBDC Network is funded in part through a co-operative agreement with the U.S. Small Business Administration. All opinions, conclusions or recommendations expressed are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the SBA. Requests for reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities will be made if requested at least two weeks in advance. Language assistance services are available for limited English proficient individuals with enough advance notice. For arrangements, please contact Lorie Pangilinan, P.O. Box 5795 CHRB, Saipan MP 96950 Tel: (670)664-3018 or Email [lorie@pacificsbdc.com](mailto:lorie@pacificsbdc.com). Services are extended to the public on a non-discriminatory basis.



#### REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATION STATEMENTS FOR AIRPORT MASTER PLANNING and AGIS SURVEY SERVICES FRANCISCO C. ADA/SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT PROJECT NO. CPA-SA-009-16



The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting statements of professional qualifications from interested Consultants for Airport Master Planning and AGIS Survey Services for the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

These services are being funded by the Federal Aviation Administration and CPA. CPA's selection process is intended to be in compliance with FAA Advisory Circular 150/5100-14E (or latest publication) entitled "Architectural, Engineering and Planning Consultant Services for Airport Grant Projects" and in accordance with CPA's Procurement Rules and Regulations and procedures shall be in full compliance with Section 40-50-202 Architect-Engineer Design and Construction Management Services.

The Request for Qualification (RFQ) Package is available at CPA's Office of the Executive Director, 2nd floor of the arrival terminal. No fee is required for obtaining the RFQ package. Questions regarding this request for RFQ statements must be submitted in writing to Ms. Wendi L. Prater, Executive Assistant/Project Manager, faxed to (670) 664-3533 and/or emailed to [wprater@cpa.gov.mp](mailto:wprater@cpa.gov.mp) by no later than Friday, August 18, 2017, 4:30 p.m., local time.

At a minimum, the statements of professional qualification will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

1. Capability to perform all or most aspects of the project, such as preliminary design, construction management, bidding services, Airport Layout Plan revisions, environmental evaluations – such as documented category exclusion, financial analysis, preliminary civil design, mechanical and electrical engineering. Demonstrated ability to implement quality control measures, identify problems completely, and implement corrective action promptly in order to meet contract schedule requirements and AIP standards. (WEIGHT 20)
2. Key personnel's professional background and successful relevant experience in airport projects comparable to the proposed projects. (WEIGHT 20)
3. Demonstrated ability to meet Airport Improvement Program AGIS standards, NGS requirements, Airport Master Plan standards, project schedules or deadlines, and to complete projects without having major cost escalations, overruns, or disputed claims; and demonstrated ability to meet Airport Improvement Program. (WEIGHT 20)
4. Quality of projects previously undertaken that are comparable to proposed projects. (WEIGHT 10)
5. Familiarity with the project and demonstrated understanding of the projects potential problems and the owner's special concerns. (WEIGHT 10)
6. Capability to furnish a qualified and experienced team for all phases of the Airport Master Planning Services and AGIS Project; and knowledgeable of specific issues at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport. (WEIGHT 10)
7. Demonstrated skills, knowledge, experience, and capabilities in AGIS; ability to implement an AGIS Obstruction Survey and Airport Airspace Analysis; ability to complete a comprehensive Airport Master Plan Update; ability to complete projects on budget and on time. (WEIGHT 10)

Interested Consultants are requested to submit one (1) original, four (4) copies and one (1) electronic version in .pdf on a compact disc of their statements of professional qualifications no later than **4:30 p.m., FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 2017**. Statements of qualification must be presented by a combination of both brochures and the use of current U.S. Government Standard Form 330.

Discussions may be conducted with at least three (3) of the firms regarding the agreement requirements and technical approach and selection made there from, in order of preference, of no less than three (3) firms determined to be the most highly qualified to perform the services required.

An agreement shall be negotiated with the highest qualified consulting firm or company at a price determined to be fair and reasonable to the government. If a fair and reasonable price cannot be negotiated with the highest ranking qualified firm, then additional firms may be selected in order of competence and qualifications and negotiations continued until a fair and reasonable price is agreed upon.

The CPA reserves the right to reject any or all statements of professional qualification for any reason, if in its sole opinion to do so would be in its best interest.

Send information to:

Mr. Christopher S. Tenorio  
Executive Director  
Commonwealth Ports Authority  
P.O. Box 501055  
Saipan, MP 96950-1055

/s/ CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO  
Executive Director

Date: July 25, 2017



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Railings receive a fresh coat of paint.



**COMMUNITY BRIEFS****Saipan chamber meeting on Wednesday**

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce will have its August general membership meeting on Wednesday, Aug. 2, at Charley's Cabaret of Pacific Islands Club. The speakers are Bobby Shringi, board chairman of the Guam Chamber of Commerce, and Chris Concepcion, managing director of the Marianas Visitors Authority.

Shringi will speak about some of the Guam chamber's activities and missions, about the Guam business climate, and about ways Saipan and Guam can benefit from each other.

Concepcion will update Chamber member on the efforts and activities of the MVA.

The buffet luncheon begins at 11:30am with the meeting portion of the agenda starting promptly at noon. (PR)

**UOG hosts beetle mitigation workshop**

The University of Guam Cooperative Extension Service is hosting the "Saving Your Coconut Trees: a Coconut Rhinoceros Beetle Workshop" on Saturday, July 29, from 9am to 11am at the Agriculture and Life Sciences Building at the UOG campus.

Members of the public are invited to attend the free workshop aimed at teaching simple techniques to protect coconut trees from the coconut rhinoceros beetle. Extension agent Roland Quitugua will also debunk common misconceptions and showcase the best tools for control tactics. Seating is limited to 40 participants. An RSVP is required to attend.

For more information, call 735-2040/80 or email rbamba@triton.uog.edu. (PR)

**Saipan Community School****enrollment**

Saipan Community School currently has open enrollment for the school year 2017-18. The new school year begins Aug. 7. If you are interested in learning more about Saipan Community School, contact school principal Amanda Allen Dunn at principal@saipan-communityschool.com, call 234-6687, or visit SCS on Beach Road in Susupe. (PR)

**VA benefits outreach on Saipan**

The U.S. Department of Veterans Benefits Administration will be visiting Saipan on Aug. 31, 2017, and will be conducting a benefits workshop/claims clinic and outreach at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe. The workshop/claims clinic will be from 9:30am to 12:30pm. Veterans will also be meeting one-on-one with the benefit counselor from 12:30pm to 3:30pm.

Workshop topics include VA benefits, loan guaranty, vocational rehabilitation & employment, death benefits & education benefits. Counselors will be available to answer questions and assist with the claim process. (PR)

**Ayuda invites public to fair**

The Ayuda Network, Inc. is inviting the public to a Community and Partnership Fair on Saturday, July 29, at the Filcom Pavilion/Civic Center basketball court from 7:30am to 4pm. The purpose of the fair is to acknowledge and promote network partners for their 25 years of support and contributions to the Ayuda Network, Inc. and the 15 years of advocacy support and contributions to the Commonwealth Diabetes Coalition. For more information, contact the Ayuda Network at 322-7469 or ayudanet@ayuda-cnmi.org or crsp.ayudanet1@gmail.com. (PR)



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Disclaimer: Must be able to legally work in the CNMI (Saipan) without needing a work visa. Send resumes to hr@mrisaipan.com or pick up an application at our office from 8am to 5pm, Monday through Friday. Visit us at <http://www.kensingtonsaipan.com/en/>

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Apple iPhone 7 128GB UNLOCKED RED	\$600
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Apple iPhone 6s plus 64GB UNLOCKED	\$550
Apple iPhone 6s plus 16GB UNLOCKED	\$500
Apple iPhone 6s 128GB UNLOCKED	\$550
Apple iPhone 6s 64GB UNLOCKED	\$500
Apple iPhone 6s 16GB UNLOCKED	\$450
Apple iPhone 6 plus 128GB UNLOCKED	\$500
Apple iPhone 6 Plus 64GB UNLOCKED	\$450
Apple iPhone 6 Plus 16GB UNLOCKED	\$400
Apple iPhone 6 128GB UNLOCKED	\$450
Apple iPhone 6 64GB UNLOCKED	\$400
Apple iPhone 6 16GB UNLOCKED	\$350
Apple iPhone 5s 64GB UNLOCKED	\$250
Apple iPhone 5s 32GB UNLOCKED	\$220
Apple iPhone 5s 16GB UNLOCKED	\$200

**SAMSUNG PHONES:**

Samsung Galaxy S8 Plus cost	\$800
Samsung Galaxy S8 cost	\$700
Samsung Galaxy Note 7 cost	\$600
Samsung Galaxy S7 Edge cost	\$550
Samsung Galaxy S7 cost	\$500

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# Business

## GOP senators blink on a big chance to repeal 'Obamacare'

WASHINGTON (AP)—After seven years of emphatic campaign promises, Senate Republicans demonstrated they didn't have the stomach to repeal "Obamacare" on Wednesday when it actually counted. The Senate voted 55-45 to reject legislation to throw out major portions of Barack Obama's law without replacing it.

Seven Republicans joined all Democrats in rejecting a measure by GOP Sen. Rand Paul of Kentucky that would have repealed most of former President Obama's health care law, with a two-year delay but no replacement. Congress passed nearly identical legislation in 2015 and sent it to Obama, who unsurprisingly vetoed it.

Yet this time, with Republi-

can President Donald Trump in the White House itching to sign the bill, the measure failed on the Senate floor. The Congressional Budget Office has estimated that repealing "Obamacare" without replacing it would cost more than 30 million Americans their insurance coverage, and that was a key factor in driving away more Republican senators than Majority Leader Mitch McConnell could afford to lose in the closely divided Senate.

The result frustrated other GOP senators, some of whom expressed disbelief that their colleagues would flip-flop on legislation they had voted for only two years ago and long promised to voters. Of the current Republican senators, only moderate Susan Collins of Maine opposed the

2015 repeal bill.

"Make no mistake: Today's vote is a major disappointment to people who were promised full repeal," said Sen. Ben Sasse of Nebraska. "We still have a long, long way to go - both in health policy and in honesty."

Yet the outcome was hardly a shock in a Senate that's already shown that unity is elusive when it comes to dealing with Obamacare. The real-world implications of repeal have proven sobering to GOP senators answering to voters who've come to rely on expanded insurance coverage under the law.

It's not over yet. But what the party's senators might end up agreeing on instead is far from clear. They are plunging ahead with debate toward their unknown goal, pressured

by an impatient president. By week's end Republicans hope to reach agreement among themselves, and eventually with the House, on some kind of repeal and replacement for the Obama law they have reviled for so long.

"We have to keep working hard," said McConnell, R-Ky. "We're determined to do everything we can to succeed. We know our constituents are counting on us."

One possibility taking shape in talks among senators was a "skinny repeal" that would abolish just a few of the key elements of Obama's law including its mandates that everyone purchase insurance and its taxes that all GOP senators can agree to oppose. But in a sign of the general confusion, some said the tactic was aimed

chiefly at moving the process forward into the purview of a committee of Senate-House bargainers while others expressed the hope that the House would swallow a "skinny bill" whole, freeing Congress to move on to other issues.

Either way, after weeks spent on the issue including false starts and near-death experiences that have eaten up months of Trump's presidency, the realization was dawning on senators that they may be unable to pass anything more complex for now than a lowest-common-denominator bill.

"At the end of the day, we've got to start somewhere.

This is a start," said Sen. Thom Tillis, R-N.C.

The day's proceedings began with prodding from Trump, who's proven impatient and inconsistent throughout the health care debate and yet can claim some credit for resuscitating Senate talks after McConnell essentially declared them dead last week.

The president singled out Alaska Sen. Lisa Murkowski, who'd voted the day before against opening long-awaited debate on the legislation, and also opposed a wide-ranging McConnell amendment Tuesday that offered a replacement for Obamacare and went down to defeat.

## Blowing smoke? E-cigarettes might help smokers quit

By MARIA CHENG  
AP MEDICAL WRITER

People who used e-cigarettes were more likely to kick the habit than those who didn't, a new study found.

Nicotine patches, gums and medications are known to aid smoking cessation, but there's no consensus on whether vaping devices can help anti-smoking efforts. The U.S. research is the largest look yet at electronic cigarette users and it found e-cigarettes played a role in helping people quit.

"It's absolutely clear that e-

cigarettes help smokers replace cigarettes," said Peter Hajek, director of the health and lifestyle research unit at Queen Mary University in London, who wasn't part of the study.

Smoking rates have been generally declining for decades. Health experts have credited taxes on tobacco products and anti-smoking ads for the drop.

E-cigarettes have been sold in the U.S. since 2007. Most devices heat a liquid nicotine solution into vapor and were promoted to smokers as a less dangerous alternative since they don't contain all the

chemicals, tar or odor of regular cigarettes.

Researchers analyzed and compared data collected by the U.S. Census from 2001 to 2015, including the number of adult e-cigarette users from the most recent survey.

About two-thirds of e-cigarette users tried to quit smoking compared to 40 percent of non-users, the study found. E-cigarette users were more likely to succeed in quitting for at least three months than non-users - 8 percent versus 5 percent.

The research was published online Wednesday in the jour-

nal, BMJ. It was funded by the National Institutes of Health.

The rate of people quitting smoking in the U.S. has remained steady at about 4.5 percent for years. It jumped to 5.6 percent in 2014-2015, representing about 350,000 fewer smokers. It was the first recorded rise in the smoking cessation rate in 15 years.

While national anti-smoking campaigns likely helped, the results show e-cigarette use also played an important role, said lead author Shu-Hong Zhu of the University of California, San Diego.

## Coke Zero gets makeover as Coke Zero Sugar

NEW YORK (AP)—Coke Zero is getting revamped as Coke Zero Sugar.

The new name is intended to make clearer that the drink has no sugar, and a new recipe is intended to make the drink taste more like regular Coke. The company isn't specifying what it's changing aside from saying it tweaked the "blend of flavors." It says the drink will use the same artificial sweeteners.

Atlanta-based Coca-Cola Co. says the new cans and bottles, which will incorporate more red like regular Coke, will start hitting shelves in August.

Fans who like Coke Zero just the way it is took to social media, with some people joking about stockpiling the current version or referencing the history of New Coke. Others asked the company to please reconsider, and Coca-Cola's social media team was busily responding, saying they're hopeful that people will love the new version.

The push behind Coke Zero comes as Americans continue moving away from Diet Coke, which was introduced in the 1980s and has its own taste that's different from Coke. Coke Zero was introduced in 2005 and is intended to more close-

ly mimic the flagship cola.

Coke Zero has generally been marketed to sporting events that skew to a male audience, while Diet Coke has been marketed to audiences that skew female, says Duane Stanford, editor of Beverage Digest. Both drinks are listed as having no calories.

Coca-Cola in the past has blamed the declines of Diet Coke on concerns over the aspartame used in the drink, though the ingredient is also used in Coke Zero, which has enjoyed growth globally.

James Quincey, CEO of Coca-Cola, says people haven't always understood that Diet Coke and Coke Zero have no sugar.

"It may surprise you to learn, but it's true," Quincey

Coca-Cola notes that the newer version of Coke Zero has already been launched in some other countries. That may allay concerns that the revamp won't go over well with fans, such as the infamous 1985 rollout of "New Coke," or PepsiCo's more recent recipe change for Diet Pepsi. PepsiCo had removed aspartame, which it said people didn't like. But then it brought back a version of Diet Pepsi with the artificial sweetener after sales fell.



**COMMONWEALTH CASINO COMMISSION**  
 Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands  
 P.O. Box 500237 Saipan, MP 96950  
 Tel: 1 (670) 233-1857 • Fax: 1 (670) 233-1856  
 Email: info@cnmicasinocommission.com
 

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**PUBLIC NOTICE**

Pursuant to the Open Government Act, Governor Ralph DLG. Torres, and Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog, the Commonwealth Casino Commission ("Commission") hereby gives notice that the Commission will be meeting with the newly created Senate Standing Committee on Gaming on Tuesday, August 1, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. at the Honorable Jesus P. Mafnas Memorial Building in Capitol Hill, Saipan. The Committee requested for the Commission to provide a brief presentation on the current progress of the casino. The Commission will also update the Honorable members of the Senate Committee on Gaming on the duties and responsibilities of the Commission.

/s/ Juan M. Sablan  
Chairman


**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY  
CNMI GOVERNMENT**


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**INVITATION TO BID**  
**ITB NO.: ITB17-DLNR/DFW-178**

**SUBMISSION DATE: AUGUST 14, 2017      TIME: 10:00 A.M.**

**"PURCHASE OF TWO (2) RUGGED TABLETS WITH GPS FOR THE DLNR – DIV. OF FISH & WILDLIFE – WILDLIFE RESTORATION"**

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT & SUPPLY, LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENCION, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/s/ ANTHONY T. BENAVENTE  
SECRETARY OF DLNR

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN  
DIRECTOR, P&S


**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY  
CNMI GOVERNMENT**


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**INVITATION TO BID**  
**ITB NO.: ITB17-DPW/ASD-175**

**SUBMISSION DATE: AUGUST 14, 2017      TIME: 10:00 A.M.**

**"PURCHASE OF A CLASS "H" VEHICLE – 4X4 PICK-UP TRUCK (4 DOORS) FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES DIVISION"**



COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT & SUPPLY, LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENCION, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/s/ JAMES A. ADA  
SECRETARY OF PUBLIC WORKS

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN  
DIRECTOR, P&S


**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY  
CNMI GOVERNMENT**


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**INVITATION FOR BID**  
**ITB NO.: ITB17-DPW/SWM-176**

**SUBMISSION DATE: AUGUST 14, 2017      TIME: 10:00 A.M.**

**"PURCHASE OF A CLASS "H" VEHICLE – 4X4 PICK-UP TRUCK (4 DOORS) FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DIVISION"**

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT & SUPPLY, LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENCION, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/s/ JAMES A. ADA  
SECRETARY OF PUBLIC WORKS

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN  
DIRECTOR, P&S


**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY  
Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation**


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**REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)**  
**RFP-17-CHCC/PHARMACY-20**

**SUBMISSION DEADLINE: August 3, 2017      TIME: 1:00PM**  
**BID OPENING DATE: August 3, 2017      TIME: 1:30 PM**

**"AREA 10 RENOVATION- PHARMACY, COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION"**

**MANDATORY ON-SITE ASSESSMENT**

A MANDATORY ON-SITE ASSESSMENT OF THE PROJECT AREA WILL BE HELD AT 9:00AM, MONDAY, JULY 31, 2017. ALL INTERESTED VENDORS MUST ATTEND. THE DESIRED DESIGN CONCEPT WILL ALSO BE AVAILABLE FOR REVIEW.

COPIES OF THE RFP PACKET MAY BE PICKED -UP AT CHCC PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY DIVISION-MEDICAL SUPPLY STORAGE FACILITY LOWER BASE SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE CHCC RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL PROPOSALS AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTIONS IN ANY PROPOSAL, IF TO DO SO SHALL BE IN THE INTEREST OF THE CHCC. ALL PROPOSALS SHALL BECOME THE EXCLUSIVE PROPERTY OF THE COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION.

/s/ ESTHER L. MUNA  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

/s/ PRISCILLA M. IAKOPPO  
CHCC DIRECTOR OF P&S



# Nation

## Trump’s order: Bar all transgender troops from US military

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Donald Trump abruptly declared a ban Wednesday on transgender troops serving anywhere in the U.S. military, catching the Pentagon flat-footed and unable to explain what it called Trump’s “guidance.” His proclamation, on Twitter rather than any formal announcement, drew bipartisan denunciations and threw currently serving transgender soldiers into limbo.

“Please be advised that the United States Government will not accept or allow Transgender individuals to serve in any capacity in the U.S. Military,” the commander in chief tweeted.

Trump wrote that he had consulted with “my generals and military experts,” but he did not mention Defense Secretary Jim Mattis, the retired Marine general who less than one month ago told the military service chiefs to spend another six months weighing the costs and benefits of allowing transgender individuals to enlist. At the time, Mattis said this “does not presuppose the outcome of the review,” but Trump’s tweets appeared to have done just that.

The Pentagon has refused to release any data on the number of transgender people currently serving. A Rand Corp. study has estimated the number at between 1,320 and 6,630 out of 1.3 million active-duty troops.

Criticism for Trump’s action was immediate and strong from both political parties.

His action is “harmful, misguided and weakens, not strengthens our military,” said

Democratic Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand of New York.

John McCain, the Arizona Republican and Vietnam War hero, said Trump was simply wrong.

“Any American who meets current medical and readiness standards should be allowed to continue serving,” he said. “There is no reason to force service members who are able to fight, train and deploy to leave the military—regardless of their gender identity.”

Not everyone at the Capitol agreed.

Rep. Duncan Hunter, a member of the House Armed Services Committee, said, “The president’s decision was the absolute right decision. ... It’s about time that a decision is made to restore the warrior culture and allow the U.S. military to get back to business.”

Transgender people already in uniform were concerned about what comes next.

“Everybody is hurt, everybody is scared,” said Rudy Akbarian, 26, who is in the military but did not want to identify his branch.

Akbarian, who said his chain of command was supportive as he transitioned from female to male, said his time to re-enlist is coming up and he might stay to ensure there is a strong voice for transgender troops like himself.

“I’m going to remain hopeful,” he said. “America is really progressive and definitely smart, and there are a lot of transgender members serving in critical roles.”

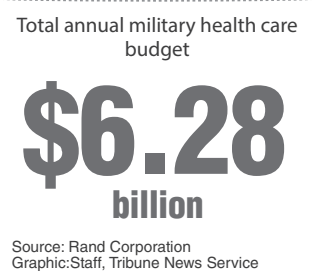
Shane Ortega, a 30-year-old retired staff sergeant in Los Angeles, said he’s concerned

more for civilians than transgender troops.

Ortega, who transitioned to male while serving in the Army and served combat tours in Iraq and Afghanistan, said, “When Donald Trump attacks what America calls its heroes or its warrior class, it means it’s only a matter of time before he starts attacking and disassembling the American public, and that’s what I have the most fear of.”

Hours after Trump’s tweets, Defense Secretary Mattis, who has been on vacation this week, was publicly silent and the Pentagon referred all questions to the White House.

### Transgenders in service by the numbers



## Spinning Ohio State Fair ride breaks apart; 1 dead, 7 hurt

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP)—A swinging and spinning amusement park ride called the Fire Ball broke apart on the opening day of the Ohio State Fair on Wednesday, hurtling people through the air, killing at least one and injuring seven others.

Three of the injured remained hospitalized in critical condition Wednesday night, authorities said at a late-night news conference.

“The fair is about the best things in life, and tonight with this accident it becomes a terrible, terrible tragedy,” said Republican Gov. John Kasich.

The man who was killed was one of several people who were thrown when the ride malfunctioned, Columbus Fire Battalion Chief

Steve Martin said earlier.

Dramatic video captured by a bystander shows the ride swinging back and forth like a pendulum and spinning in the air when it crashes into something and part of the ride flies off, throwing riders to the ground.

A company providing rides at the fair this year describes the Fire Ball as an “aggressive thrill” ride.

On its website, Amusements of America says that since its debut in 2002, the Fire Ball has become “one of the most popular thrill rides on the AOA Midway.” The company description of the ride says it swings riders 40 feet (12 meters) above the midway while spinning them at 13 revolutions per minute.

**Commonwealth Utilities Corporation**  
Office of the Executive Director

**INVITATION FOR BIDS**  
**CUC-IFB-17-038**

**Electric Power Pole Mitigation Project**

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms to perform mitigation of the CUC power distribution system through the replacement of 374 wood poles to concrete poles in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The project entails the replacement of 103 units of 35-foot and 271 units of 40-foot wood poles to concrete poles and the assembly of electrical hardware. The work site is to take place across CUC's power grid.

*This project is funded by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of the approval for project award from the CUC and FEMA.*

CUC requires the Project to be completed in **174 calendar days** from date of award of contract.

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$100.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference followed by a Site Visit is scheduled on **August 15, 2017 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.17, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

**One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies** must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked “CUC-IFB-038, Electric Power Pole Mitigation Project”, to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on August 29, 2017** at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement the form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

A *Bid Guarantee* of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A *Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered Prospective Bidders and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on August 18, 2017** to Manny B. Sablan, Jr., CUC Purchasing Administrator- via email address [manny.sablan@cucgov.org](mailto:manny.sablan@cucgov.org) with a copy to Adrian Reyes, CUC Power Jr. Electrical Engineer - via email address [adrian.reyes@cucgov.org](mailto:adrian.reyes@cucgov.org) and Marcela Tenorio, CUC Purchasing Assistant-via email address [marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org](mailto:marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org).

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids for any reason and to waive any defects in said bid documents, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

**GARY P. CAMACHO**  
Executive Director

**MANNY B. SABLÁN, JR.**  
Purchasing Administrator

**COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**  
**DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY & CULTURAL AFFAIRS**  
**DIVISION OF YOUTH SERVICES**

**PUBLIC HEARING ANNOUNCEMENT**

This is to inform the general public that the Division of Youth Services under the auspices of the Department of Community & Cultural Affairs will be conducting a public hearing on the FY 2018 Consolidated Block Grant State Plan under the authority of the Social Services Block Grant- Title XX, as amended and codified at 42 U.S.C. §1397 et seq. on the following dates/time:

ISLAND	DATE	TIME	VENUE
Saipan	08/03/2017	5:30 PM - 6:30 PM	DYS Tanapag Youth Center
Tinian	08/10/2017	5:30 PM - 6:30 PM	Tinian Youth Center
Rota	08/17/2017	5:30 PM - 6:30 PM	Rota Youth Center

**SOCIAL SERVICES BLOCK GRANT (SSBG)**

The basic programs that would be implemented under the Social Services Block Grant Consolidation for the CNMI must be linked to one or more of the 5 statutory goals;

- Achieving or maintaining economic self- support to prevent, reduce, or eliminate dependency. **(Self- Support)**
- Achieving or maintaining self- sufficiency, including reduction or prevention of dependency. **(Self- Sufficiency)**
- Preventing or remedying neglect, abuse or exploitation of children and adults unable to protect their own interest, or preserving, rehabilitating or reuniting families. **(Protective Services)**
- Preventing or reducing inappropriate institutional care by providing for community- based care, hom e- based care, or other forms of less intensive care. **(Prevent Institutionalism)**
- Securing referral or admission for institutional care when other forms of care are not appropriate or providing services to individuals in institutions. **(Appropriate Institutionalism)**

An electronic copy of the 2018 Consolidated Block Grant State Plan may be viewed on the links provided below:

Division of Youth Services- [www.dys.gov.mp](http://www.dys.gov.mp)  
Department of Community & Cultural Affairs- [www.dcca.gov.mp](http://www.dcca.gov.mp)  
Governor's Office- [www.gov.mp](http://www.gov.mp)

Copies for the above State Plan may also be picked up at the DYS Office in Chalan Piao, Joeten building 1st floor (located next to Bank of Guam). For more information, or to submit written comments, you may contact:

Telephone numbers: 664-2550/2557/2592  
Email: Rita Castro (DYS Grant Writer) [rcastro@dys.gov.mp](mailto:rcastro@dys.gov.mp)  
Sylvio S. Ada (DYS Acting Administrator) [sada@dys.gov.mp](mailto:sada@dys.gov.mp)

/s/ Sylvio S. Ada  
DYS Acting Administrator

/s/ Robert H. Hunter  
DCCA Secretary



# Asia

## N. Korea mysteriously nixes beer fest, but unveils new brew

**PYONGYANG, North Korea** (AP)—North Korea has suddenly canceled a popular monthlong beer festival, but people won't be going thirsty in a country where brews are cheap and carry the ruling family's seal of approval.

Last year's inaugural festival along the Taedong River was a surprise hit with tourists and Pyongyang residents alike. This year's event, scheduled to begin Wednesday, was scrapped for unknown reasons at a time when international criticism over the death of an American tourist and the July 4 test of Pyongyang's first intercontinental ballistic missile have left the country's nascent tourism industry in limbo.

North Korea's premier brewery had crafted a new beer for the festival, and unveiled it Wednesday despite the cancellation. Taedonggang Brewery's eighth specialty brew has not been bottled yet and does not even have a formal name, but it's available in kegs as draft.

Taedonggang beers are generally reputed to be world-class, which is a matter of national pride among many North Koreans.

Though not as popular as soju, a much stronger, clear alcohol distilled from rice, beer is readily available all over the country and prices are low.

A pint at the Taedonggang beer hall just across the street from the sprawling brewery campus cost about \$2. But beer at a stand-up bar on Pyongyang's fancy new Scientists' Street is sold by the liter for about 500 North Korean won, or about 6 cents if calculated at the unofficial but widely used exchange rate of roughly 8,000 won to the dollar.

Han Hyong Chol, head of



quality management, told The Associated Press Taedonggang's brewery pumps out 200 kiloliters (53,000 gallons) of beer every day to meet the demand of beer drinkers in the North Korean capital—a city of about 3 million—where it's distributed to 160 beer halls.

According to brewery history, the plant on Pyongyang's outskirts was built at the order of Kim Jong Il, current leader Kim Jong Un's father, in 2001 and began production the following year.

The brewery courtyard features a large mural of Kim Jong Il wearing a white lab coat and holding a trademark green Taedonggang bottle while smiling broadly before a production line. Several larger-than-life photos of Kim conducting "on-the-spot guidance" hang in brewery production halls.

"He instructed our managers and technicians that as a socialist country we must provide the people with the best beer in the world," a guide replied when asked what kind of guidance Kim had to offer.

The state-run brewery employs about 700 people, but is mostly automated. It takes about 20 days to produce each batch of beer.

The brewery gave The Associated Press the public first taste of its latest brew, made from wheat and hops.

It's not bitter, which is a plus. One comment was, oddly enough, "minty." But it also seemed a bit flat, though that might have something to do with a lot of pre-taste-test jostling of the keg.

Brewery officials said they studied techniques and beers from around the world when setting up the brewery. It's

suspected they drew particularly heavily on British and German know-how, but Han had no comment on that.

Han also had no comment

on the sudden cancellation of the beer festival, though it's certainly another serious hit to the reputation of tourism in North Korea.

AP  
In this Wednesday, July 26, 2017, photo, a mural of the late North Korean leader Kim Jong Il in a white lab coat holding up a bottle of beer is seen at the entrance of the Taedonggang Brewery in Pyongyang, North Korea.

Pyongyang has been pushing tourism hard as a revenue stream, but the case of Otto Warmbier and others has raised safety and ethical concerns among potential foreign customers.

U.S. President Donald Trump is expected to soon formally announce a ban on travel to the country by American citizens after the death of Warmbier, a college student who was jailed for allegedly trying to steal a propaganda banner while visiting North Korea. He fell into a coma for unknown reasons soon after his March 2016 sentencing, yet Pyongyang revealed nothing about his condition for more than a year. The North allowed him to return to the U.S. last month, but he died days after coming home.

### ASIAN BRIEFS

#### 48 dead as heavy monsoon rains lash western India

**NEW DELHI** (AP)—At least 48 people have been killed as large swaths of western India have been lashed by heavy monsoon rains and flooding over the last week, officials said Wednesday. In Rajasthan, home to a number of popular tourist destinations, the streets of at least four districts have been turned into virtual rivers, trapping tens of thousands of people on the upper floors of residential buildings. Rescue workers were scrambling to rescue thousands of others whose homes have been flooded or destroyed. By Wednesday, the death toll in the state stood at 19. In the neighboring state of Gujarat, at least 29 people have died amid torrential rains. This week's deaths have taken the toll to 83 since the start of the monsoon season, which runs from June through September.

#### Police: Office worker kills 3 in central China knife rampage

**BEIJING** (AP)—Police said three people were killed and four injured in a rampage by a knife-wielding man in central China on Thursday morning. Three of the victims were attacked by 40-year-old Wang Xiang at an office where he worked following a disagreement between him and his co-workers, the Wuhan city police force said in a statement posted on its microblog. Wang then drove to another spot in the city where he attacked passers-by before police shot him and subdued him, the police statement said. It didn't mention his condition. China bans private gun ownership, making knives and homemade bombs the most common weapons in violent attacks. Such rampage killings have grown increasingly common in China, blamed in part on failures in diagnosing mental illness and stress caused by rapid social and economic changes.

#### US admiral stands ready to obey a

#### Trump nuclear strike order

**CANBERRA, Australia** (AP)—The U.S. Pacific Fleet commander said Thursday he would launch a nuclear strike against China next week if President Donald Trump ordered it, and warned against the military ever shifting its allegiance from its commander in chief. Adm. Scott Swift was addressing an Australian National University security conference following a major joint U.S.-Australian military exercise off the Australian coast. The drills were monitored by a Chinese intelligence-gathering ship off northeast Australia. Asked by an academic in the audience whether he would make a nuclear attack on China next week if Trump ordered it, Swift replied: "The answer would be yes." Every member of the U.S. military had sworn an oath to obey the president as the commander in chief, Swift said. "This is core to the American democracy and any time you have a military that is moving away from a focus and an allegiance to civilian control, then we really have a significant problem," Swift said.

#### New Zealander shot dead in central Philippines

**MANILA, Philippines** (AP)—Police say they have arrested the suspected gunman in the fatal shooting of a New Zealander on a central Philippine island. Another suspect is being sought. Senior Police Officer Jimmy De Lima said Thursday one of two men on a motorcycle shot dead 63-year-old Simon Rawlinson in Biliran island's capital town of Naval. He says they took Rawlinson's bag containing money, a laptop and the victim's documents. De Lima says Rawlinson, a long-time resident of nearby Maripipi island, was in Naval for a trip to the market when attacked Wednesday morning. A witness led police to the suspected gunman, a local farmer. Found in his house were a pistol, bullets and clothes the suspect was seen on CCTV footage wearing during the shooting. The motorcycle driver is still at large.

## PH: Top N. Korean diplomat to join security meeting

**MANILA, Philippines** (AP)—North Korea's top diplomat will attend an annual Asian security conference in Manila, where concern over the North's nuclear weapons program is expected to be high on the agenda, Philippine officials said.

A North Korean delegation led by its vice foreign minister flew to Manila on Wednesday to discuss the participation of North Korean Foreign Minister Ri Yong Ho in the ASEAN Regional Forum, the Department of Foreign Affairs said.

Ri's attendance at the meeting is definite, Foreign Secretary Alan Peter Cayetano told

a news conference. The meeting is scheduled on Aug. 7, the department said.

The 27-member ARF's annual meetings are also attended by the foreign ministers of South Korea, the United States, China, Russia and Japan, countries involved in earlier six-nation talks aimed at taming North Korea's nuclear ambition. North Korea pulled out of the talks in 2009 to protest international condemnation of a long-range rocket launch.

In May, U.S. Secretary of State Rex Tillerson pressed Southeast Asian foreign ministers in a meeting at the State Department to ensure

"leak-proof" enforcement of sanctions against North Korea and prevent the nation's diplomats from conducting business that could benefit its weapons programs.

The foreign ministers were from the 10-nation Association of Southeast Asian Nations, or ASEAN, which is hosting next month's meeting.

The Trump administration has been pushing to get the international community to intensify diplomatic and economic pressure on North Korea to dismantle its nuclear weapons program before it can pose a direct threat to the American mainland.



# World

## Israel removes railings, overhead bridge near holy site

**JERUSALEM** (AP)—Israel removed railings and an overhead metal bridge it had recently installed near a contested Jerusalem holy site, meeting a demand by Muslim protesters and causing thousands of Palestinians to celebrate in the streets early Thursday.

Muslim leaders said they would decide later in the day whether worshippers could return to the shrine for prayers and end a crisis that Israel hoped it had resolved by making concessions at the site.

The head of the Supreme Islamic Committee, Ikrema Sabri, had said previously that worshippers would not return to the shrine until Israel removed the new railings and cameras it installed after a deadly attack there.

Sabri said that even after Israel removed metal detectors, more steps were required to restore calm. He said mass prayer protests would continue until the gates of the compound are opened, metal railings and an iron bridge removed and newly installed cameras removed.

"We will not enter the mosque until these things are implemented," Sabri told



Officers from the Hamas national security force carry a model of the Al Aqsa Mosque while marching during a parade against Israeli arrangements in the contested Jerusalem shrine, in front of the Palestinian Legislative Council in Gaza City, Wednesday, July 26, 2017.

The Associated Press. "Now we are awaiting the response of the police."

The demands set off the prospect of a renewed showdown ahead of Friday prayers, when a large number of worshippers

arrive for the centerpiece of the Muslim prayer week.

It was unclear whether Israel's removal of the railings and overhead bridge would meet the demands, but Palestinians danced, chanted "God is Great" and set off fireworks early Thursday.

Israel installed the new security measures earlier this month after Arab gunmen shot and killed two police officers

from within the site. It said they were necessary to prevent more attacks, while Palestinians claimed Israel was trying to expand its control over the site. The issue sparked some of the worst street clashes in years and threatened to draw Israel into conflict with other Arab and Muslim nations.

Under intense pressure, Israel removed the metal detectors and said it planned to

install sophisticated security cameras instead.

But Palestinian politicians and Muslim clerics say that isn't enough and are demanding Israel restore the situation at the shrine in Jerusalem's Old City to what it was before the July 14 attack.

Israel's decision to add security measures there triggered Muslim protests, and low-level clashes have continued in and

around Jerusalem in the days since. The Red Crescent said 13 people were treated Tuesday night after being hit by rubber bullets during protests.

The continued standoff highlighted the deep distrust between Israel and the Palestinians when it comes to the shrine—the third-holiest in Islam and the most sacred in Judaism.

The 37-acre (15-hectare) compound, known to Muslims as the Noble Sanctuary and to Jews as the Temple Mount, has been a lightning rod for the rival religious and national narratives of the two sides and has triggered major confrontations in the past.

The latest development could put Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu in a tough spot, as he tries to tamp out a wave of unrest that has triggered international pressure while not appearing to his hard-line base as capitulating.

His government has faced a growing backlash at home for what critics said was hasty decision-making and embarrassing policy reversals. Even Israel Hayom, a free daily owned by Netanyahu's billionaire patron Sheldon Adelson, denounced Israel's response to the crisis as "feeble and frightened."

In an unprecedented headline, the paper—which has been an unequivocal source of support for the prime minister—led with "Netanyahu's demonstration of helplessness."

## Boko Haram ambushes oil convoy in Nigeria, killing 10

**MAIDUGURI, Nigeria** (AP)—Boko Haram extremists ambushed an oil exploration convoy in northern Nigeria, killing at least 10 people and abducting several others who were later rescued, officials said Wednesday. They said insurgents also had been killed, but gave no numbers.

The ambush came several weeks after the Nigeria National Petroleum Corporation's management announced it was resuming oil exploration around Lake Chad following assurances by Nigeria's military that security had improved in the area, which was once under Boko Haram's control.

Nigeria's military and a self-defense group in Borno State were providing security for the oil exploration workers.

Bunu Bukar, secretary of the self-defense group, known as the Hunters Association, said its members saw the bodies of government soldiers after the ambush Tuesday.

"What I can confidently confirm to you is that the insurgents came in new vehicles and fully dressed in military uniforms," Bukar said.

Army spokesman Sani Us-

man said later Wednesday that all oil company staff had been rescued. Those killed in the convoy included an army officer, eight soldiers and a civilian, he said.

Usman said the team sent to search for those kidnapped killed some extremists and also recovered four vehicles, large quantities of ammunition, assorted drugs and materials for making explosive devices.

National Petroleum spokesman Ndu Ughamadu earlier had said 10 geological surveyors were abducted. But Zanna Modu, council chairman of the Magumeri local government area, put the number of kidnapped at seven, saying they included four self-defense fighters, two oil company employees and a staffer with the University of Maiduguri.

A large number of Boko Haram fighters were killed in the shootout, Modu said.

Boko Haram's eight-year insurgency has killed more than 20,000 people and continues to carry out deadly attacks despite the government's declaration late last year that the extremists had been "crushed."

## Venezuela leader's foes levy new sanctions and fresh strike

**CARACAS, Venezuela** (AP)—Opponents of President Nicolas Maduro at home and abroad tried again Wednesday to pressure the socialist leader into halting his plans to rewrite Venezuela's constitution though there was no public sign their efforts were working.

The Trump administration announced sanctions on 13 current and former members of Maduro's administration, freezing their U.S. assets and barring Americans from doing business with them. The U.S. also joined with a dozen other regional governments in urging Maduro to suspend Sunday's election of a national assembly for rewriting the charter.

Far from derail Maduro, the Venezuelan leader appeared emboldened by the sanctions, praising those accused by the U.S. government of undermining the nation's democracy and abusing human rights.

"We don't recognize any sanction," he said. "For us, it's a recognition of morality, loyalty to the nation, and

civic honesty."

Those moves came as a coalition of Venezuelan opposition groups organized a second national strike in a week. Highways were mostly empty and businesses shuttered across the country as millions of people observed the 48-hour strike and activists threw up roadblocks in many neighborhoods to keep others from getting to work.

By late afternoon, clashes between police and protesters erupted at some roadblocks in Caracas, and the chief prosecutor's office reported at least one person killed. That increased the official count of dead in nearly four months of demonstrations to at least 98.

Venezuela was less than four days from a vote that would start the process of rewriting its constitution by electing members of a special assembly to reshape the charter. The opposition is boycotting the vote, saying election rules were rigged to guarantee Maduro a majority in the constitutional assembly.

Maduro did not address the

nation Wednesday but state-run television was filled with scenes of his backers exhorting the public to go to the polls Sunday.

Meanwhile, opposition leader Leopoldo Lopez called on Venezuelans to support the strike in his first direct public message since being moved from prison to house arrest this month. The 46-year-old former Caracas-area mayor, who was sentenced to 14 years in 2015 after being convicted of inciting violence during a previous spate of protests, also appealed to the military not to deploy for Sunday's election.

"We are on the brink of their trying to annihilate the republic that you swore to defend," Lopez said in a 15-minute video message. "I ask you not to be accomplices in the annihilation of the republic."

Three days of protests are planned leading up to Sunday's vote, starting with the strike and culminating Friday with a demonstration billed as a "takeover of Caracas."

"We have to do everything possible to halt the constitu-

tional assembly," said Maria Medina, an office administrator who was waiting in line at a state-run bank that opened. "The only solution is a change of government."

Among those hit by the U.S. sanctions were Tibisay Lucena Ramirez, the president of the National Electoral Council and president of Venezuela's National Board of Elections; Elias Jose Jaua Milano, minister of education and head of the Presidential Commission for the National Constituent Assembly; Tarek William Saab Halabi, president of Venezuela's Republican Moral Council; and Maria Iris Varela Rangel, a member of Venezuela's Presidential Commission for the Constituent Assembly.

In addition, penalties will apply to several members of Venezuela's national guard, police and other security services, including Interior Minister Nestor Luis Reverol Torres, who was indicted last year by the U.S. Justice Department for his alleged role in an international cocaine distribution conspiracy.



# Off The Wall

## Man accused of attempting to sneak in 3 king cobras in potato chip cans

LOS ANGELES (AP)—A man was arrested on federal smuggling charges Tuesday after customs officers intercepted a shipment with three live king cobras hidden inside potato chip canisters that were being mailed to his California home, U.S. prosecutors said.

Rodrigo Franco, 34, was scheduled to be arraigned Tuesday afternoon in Los Angeles on a charge of illegally importing merchandise. It wasn't immediately clear if he had an attorney who could comment on the allegations.

The three king cobra snakes—each about two feet (just over half a meter) long—were found in March

when Customs and Border Protection officers inspected a package that was mailed from Hong Kong, prosecutors said. There were also three albino Chinese soft-shelled turtles in the package, authorities said.

Federal agents removed the cobras but delivered the turtles to Franco's home in Monterey Park.

The agents later served a search warrant there and found tanks with a live baby Morelet's crocodile, alligator snapping turtles, a common snapping turtle, and five diamond back terrapins. Prosecutors say all of the reptiles are protected under U.S. law.

Franco admitted to an agent

from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service that he had previously received 20 king cobras in two other shipments, but he said they all died in transit, according to court documents.

Federal agents also searched Franco's phone and found that he exchanged messages with an individual in Asia about shipping turtles and snakes between Hong Kong and the U.S., prosecutors said. Franco said in those messages that he had previously received live cobras and planned to give five of the snakes to a relative of the contact in Virginia, court papers said.

If convicted, Franco faces up to 20 years in prison.

### OFFBEAT BRIEFS

#### 926-pound shark won't be recognized as New Jersey's record

TRENTON, N.J. (AP)—A 926-pound (420-kilogram) Mako shark caught off the New Jersey coast won't be recognized as a state record because more than one angler helped catch it. The 12-foot-long (3.6-meter-long) shark caught Saturday about 100 miles (160 kilometers) offshore beats an 880-pound tiger shark caught in 1988. But six fishermen were involved in reeling in the Mako shark. Regulations posted on the Division of Fish and Wildlife's website note state records "are determined by weight alone." But the agency notes the state record application says the angler seeking the certification must swear the fish was caught without anyone's help. Mark Miccio was among the six who caught the shark. He tells The Philadelphia Inquirer they won't seek to have it recognized due to the single-angler rule. But he added Tuesday: "It's a record for us."

#### University professor charged with keying her neighbors' cars

BRIDGEVILLE, Pa. (AP)—A Pennsylvania professor known for her expertise on consumer trends has been charged with keying her neighbors' cars. Bridgeville police say Duquesne University professor Audrey Guskey them that she gets upset when others park their vehicles in front of her residence. Police have charged the marketing and communications expert with criminal mischief. They say she scratched four cars with a key and caused more than \$10,000 total damage in

June. Guskey's attorney, Phil DiLucente, says he hopes the parties involved can resolve the matter at the preliminary hearing "and collectively all grow stronger from this misunderstanding." Duquesne spokeswoman Tammy Ewin says officials are "troubled and deeply disheartened" by the allegations, which "if true, would not reflect the university's mission in any fashion."

#### Police: Woman arrested after topless road rage attack

SANDWICH, Mass. (AP)—Police say a Massachusetts motorist has been arrested after getting out of her sport utility vehicle, removing her shirt and charging topless while holding a knife toward another motorist. The Cape Cod Times reports the other motorist turned out to be an off-duty police officer who called the Sandwich Police Department to report the woman. Police say on Facebook that they received a call Saturday of an SUV driving erratically. They say the driver attempted to crash into the caller's vehicle before pulling up behind it at a red light. Police say the woman got out of the SUV, removed her shirt and ran toward the other vehicle while holding a dagger-like knife. They say the 39-year-old woman is facing several charges, including assault with a dangerous weapon.

#### Teacher who cartwheeled without underwear given probation

PAWHUSKA, Okla. (AP)—A former substitute teacher in Oklahoma who exposed herself to students when she did a cartwheel while wear-

ing a long skirt but no underwear has pleaded guilty to a reduced charge. Lacey Sponsler pleaded guilty Monday to assault after the charge was reduced from indecent exposure. She was given a two year suspended sentence and can't teach for two years. She will not have to register as a sex offender. Sponsler declined comment. Defense attorney Nathan Milner told KTUL TV that Sponsler believes the incident was "blown out of proportion" and is glad the case is over. Sponsler was charged in February after allegedly performing a cartwheel in which she exposed herself during a high school choir class in Pawhuska, about 100 miles (160 kilometers) northeast of Oklahoma City.

#### Police: One-armed, machete-wielding clown arrested

HOLLIS, Maine (AP)—A man is accused of drunkenly strolling down a Maine road wearing a black-hooded sweatshirt and a clown mask and brandishing a machete taped to where his arm had been amputated. Maine State Police say 31-year-old Corey Berry, of Hollis, was arrested Tuesday and charged with criminal threatening. He was released after posting \$200 bail. Police say Berry was first spotted in Hollis but then fled into the woods. He was taken into custody after re-emerging in Waterboro. Police say Berry was intoxicated but cooperative. He told officers that he was copying previous clown sightings as a prank. A phone number for Berry couldn't be found Wednesday. It wasn't known if he has a lawyer who could comment on his behalf.

# Science & Technology

## TECH Q&A

## Changing settings in Windows 7 causes external drive to disappear

By STEVE ALEXANDER  
STAR TRIBUNE (MINNEAPOLIS)

**Q: I think I accidentally changed something in my Windows 7 PC's advanced settings, and now the PC's directory can't see my external hard drive. I can't restore my computer to an earlier date because it can't see the external hard drive on which I backed everything up. What should I do?—Pierre Girard, Golden Valley, Minn.**

**A:** First, let's eliminate hardware problems as a possible cause.

Try plugging your external drive into a different USB port on your PC. If the PC recognizes the drive, the USB port you were using isn't functioning. If nothing changes, try plugging the external drive into another PC.

If the other computer can't see the external drive either, you have a problem with the drive. Take it to a PC repair shop to see whether the data on it can be saved to a new external hard drive.

If the other computer recognizes the drive, the problem lies with your PC.

If so, try using "system

restore" to return the PC's settings to a date before the appearance of this problem (see [tinyurl.com/kxanto5](http://tinyurl.com/kxanto5)). System restore won't affect any of the data stored on your PC, but it will fix any advanced settings you may have altered.

Why will this work when your PC can't see your external backup drive? System restore uses only prior computer settings data stored on your PC's hard drive; it doesn't need to access the external hard drive.

**Q: I've discovered that I have the Zeus malware program on my PC. Is there a free or cheap method of getting rid of it?—Russell Steiner, Heath, Ohio**

**A:** The Zeus malware is truly harmful. But 10 years after its first appearance, it is well-understood and can be removed by the average PC user.

However, removing it is a laborious process that uses the free versions of four different anti-malware programs (see [tinyurl.com/k44vz8a](http://tinyurl.com/k44vz8a)).

The Zeus malware has spread misery since it was discovered in 2007. Besides stealing passwords and online banking information, it acts as a conduit for download-

ing additional malicious software. As a result, it has been used to install ransomware (in which PC data is encrypted and a ransom is demanded to free it), and to show pop-up windows that falsely claim a PC has a virus infection and offer to fix it for a price (see [tinyurl.com/y8bbqpfv](http://tinyurl.com/y8bbqpfv)).

**Q: We wanted to put photos on Craigslist using my Kodak Easyshare camera and its PC software. But the photos wouldn't transfer to Craigslist. Instead the photos were circled in red, with a red line through them. What's wrong?—Orren Bradley Jr., Sahuarita, Ariz.**

**A:** I suspect that the Kodak Easyshare software, which hasn't been available since 2013, isn't compatible with the Craigslist website.

A better alternative is to remove the memory card from your Easyshare camera and insert it into a memory card reader (either one built into a PC or an external one that plugs into a USB port.)

Your PC will read the camera card as it would a flash drive. Copy the pictures from the card to a new folder on your PC, then upload them to Craigslist.

### Science Matters

## Crisis threatening scaly anteater moves to Africa

*The pangolin – the world's most widely trafficked wild mammal – is being driven toward extinction in Asia, and a new study shows that hunters in Central Africa are wiping out the pangolin there also.*

### Pangolin's decline in Asia

■ Most frequently seized mammal in illegal wildlife trade; populations sinking in Indonesia, Vietnam

■ Smugglers sell its meat as a delicacy and its scales and blood for traditional Chinese medicine

*The only mammal armored with scales of keratin (material of hair, nails)*

#### Most closely related to canines, cats

- 12 to 39 in. (30-100 cm)
- Nocturnal, solitary; eat ants and termites

*When threatened by a predator, pangolin rolls into a ball, sharp scales outward; tucks its head under tail*

### New study of African losses

Each year, hunters take **2.7 million** pangolins from African forests

**Ranges of Africa's four pangolin species**

**In African trade,** pangolins are more sought after than elephant ivory

**Reproduce** slowly, every 1 to 2 years; unfortunately, poachers prefer to take young pangolins

**Ranges of the four Asian pangolin species**

**Pangolins shipped to Asian buyers**

Source: Daniel Ingram of University of Sussex; Conservation Letters; Worldwatch Institute; National Botanic Garden of Belgium (photo); Graphic: Helen Lee McComas, Tribune News Service



African white-bellied pangolin



## Life & Style

# Jury: Michael Jackson estate owes Quincy Jones \$9.4 million

A jury on Wednesday found that Michael Jackson's estate owes Quincy Jones \$9.4 million in royalties and production fees from "Billie Jean," "Thriller" and more of the superstar's biggest hits.

The award from a Los Angeles Superior Court jury fell short of the \$30 million the legendary producer sought in the lawsuit filed nearly four years ago, but well above the approximately \$392,000 the Jackson estate contended Jones was owed. The jury of 10 women and two men had been deliberating since Monday.

"This lawsuit was never about Michael, it was about protecting the integrity of the work we all did in the recording studio and the legacy of what we created," Jones wrote in a statement. "Although this (judgment) is not the full amount that I was seeking, I am very grateful that the jury decided in our favor in this matter. I view it not only as a victory for myself personally, but for artists' rights overall."

Estate attorney Howard Weitzman said he and his team were surprised by the verdict and would appeal it.

Weitzman and co-counsel Zia Modabber wrote in a statement that Jones was seeking money that wasn't owed to him.

"Any amount above and beyond what is called for in his contracts is too much and unfair to Michael's heirs," the lawyers said. "Although Mr. Jones is portraying this is a victory for artists' rights, the real artist is Michael Jackson and it is his money Mr. Jones is seeking."

Jones claimed in the lawsuit that Jackson's estate and Sony Music Entertainment owed him for music he had produced that was used in the concert film "This Is It" and two Cirque du Soleil shows that used Jackson's songs.

The lawsuit said the entities had improperly re-edited the songs to deprive Jones of royalties and production fees, and that he had a contractual right to take first crack at any re-edit or remix.

The Jackson camp held that Jones should only be paid licensing fees for songs used in those three productions. Jones claimed he was entitled to a share of the overall receipts from them.

The trial centered on the definitions of terms in the two contracts Jackson and Jones signed in 1978 and 1985.

Under the deals, for example, Jones is entitled to a share of net receipts from a "video-show" of the songs. The Jackson attorneys argued that the term was meant to apply to mu-



In this Feb. 28, 1984 file photo, Michael Jackson, left, holds eight awards as he poses with Quincy Jones at the Grammy Awards in Los Angeles. On Wednesday, July 26, 2017, a jury found that Jackson's estate owes Jones \$9.4 million in royalties and production fees from "Billie Jean," "Thriller" and more of the superstar's biggest hits.

sic videos and not feature films.

Jury foreman Duy Nguyen, 28, said the contracts were the strongest pieces of evidence the jury considered, and said hearing Jones' testimony was also helpful.

He said he and many members of the jury are Jackson fans, but that didn't factor into the deliberations. He said the

verdict amount was a compromise figure based on an expert's testimony.

Jones took the stand during the trial, and was asked by Jackson estate attorney Howard Weitzman whether he realized he was essentially suing Jackson himself.

Jones angrily disagreed.

"I'm not suing Michael," he

said. "I'm suing you all."

The defense attorneys pointed out that Jackson's death in 2009 has already been lucrative for Jones, who made \$8 million from his share of their works in the two years after the singer's death, versus \$3 million in the two years previous.

"You don't deserve a raise," Weitzman said during closing

arguments. "You can't have any more of Michael Jackson's money."

Jones insisted he was seeking his due for the work he has done rather than merely seeking money.

His attorney Scott Cole accused the defense of using "word games and loopholes" to deny Jones, the Hollywood Reporter said.

The producer worked with Jackson on the three-album run widely considered the performer's prime: "Off the Wall," "Thriller" and "Bad."

Jackson's hits from those albums including "Billie Jean," "Thriller" and "Don't Stop 'Til You Get Enough" are among the songs Jones claims were re-edited.

The lawsuit initially set the amount Jones sought at least \$10 million, but his attorneys later arrived at \$30 million after an accounting of the estate's profits from the works.

Jones and Jackson proved to be a perfect partnership starting with 1979's "Off the Wall." Jackson gave a youthful pop vitality to Jones, who was known primarily as a producer and arranger of jazz and film soundtracks. And Jones lent experience and gravitas to Jackson, who was still best known to most as the child prodigy who fronted the Jackson 5. (AP)

## Ex-Park aide, culture minister guilty for artists blacklists

**SEOUL, South Korea** (AP)—A South Korean court on Thursday sentenced the former presidential chief of staff and the former culture minister to prison for blacklisting thousands of artists and denying them state support because they were believed to be unfriendly to ousted President Park Geun-hye.

They are the latest convictions from the corruption scandal surrounding Park, who is jailed and being tried for bribery and other criminal charges.

The Seoul Central District Court sentenced Park's former aide Kim Ki-choon to three years behind bars and former Culture Minister Kim Jong-deok to two years for abuse of authority and other charges.

The court sentenced five other former presidential and government officials to shorter or suspended prison terms over the case.

Following months of mas-

sive protests by millions and an impeachment vote in December, Park was formally removed from office and arrested in March over allegations that she colluded with a friend to take tens of millions of dollars from the country's largest companies through bribes and extortion.

Park was indicted in April on bribery and other charges. Prosecutors expanded their investigation to include the blacklisting allegations late last year following a complaint submitted by a group of artists. Prosecutors later said about 9,000 artists were on the presidential blacklist, which reportedly included writers, poets, actors, musicians, painters, and film and theater directors.

The Seoul court agreed with prosecutors that many of the blacklisted artists were unjustly excluded from government funding or participating in government-backed culture projects.

## Wicked good poems: Boston gets its 1st anthology of poetry

**BOSTON** (AP)—Boston's about to bust a rhyme.

Dozens of prominent poets, including a former U.S. poet laureate, will commandeer the courtyard of the Boston Public Library on Thursday to read aloud from the city's first anthology of poetry.

Organizers have dubbed the collection "City of Notions," a reference to a nickname that Boston earned in the early 19th century for being a font of innovation and ideas.

Boston poet laureate Danielle Legros Georges, who edited the collection, sees it as "a meeting place, a poetic 'city square' for a wide variety of voices."

Among the nearly 60 contributors is Robert Pinsky, a former U.S. poet laureate who now teaches English and creative writing at Boston University.

The poems in "City of Notions" range from sonnets to haiku and free verse. All touch on aspects of life in Boston, including the Boston Marathon—a beloved rite of spring—and the city's much-reviled public transit system.

Pinsky's poem, "The Day Dreamers," begins:

"All day all over the city every person  
Wanders a different city, sealed intact  
And haunted as the abandoned subway stations

Under the city. Where is my alley doorway?"

Award-winning playwright and poet Nick Flynn contributed "Marathon," a poignant poem he wrote in response to the 2013 marathon bombing that killed three spectators and wounded more than 260 others.

In part, it reads:

"It's too soon to say we were lucky  
It's too soon to say anything,  
Until the cloud is pulled back from the sky,  
Until the ringing is pulled back from the bells."

Georges said she sought out poems that depict Boston in a completely unvarnished light, "including those that address head-on such issues as race, social tensions, and cultural and class differences and positions."

Those included "Boston Year," a stark composition by poet and essayist Elizabeth Alexander, who is black. It begins:

"My first week in Cambridge a car full of white boys tried to run me off the road, and spit through the window, open to ask directions."

Mayor Marty Walsh said the poems give voice to a wide range of Bostonians "as they share their truths, their hurts, their hopes and their dreams."

## HBO exec: Slave drama 'Confederate' announcement mishandled

**BEVERLY HILLS, Calif.**

(AP)—HBO's programming chief said the cable channel erred in how it unveiled plans for a series envisioning modern Southern slavery, but he defended "Confederate" against sharp criticism it drew on social media.

"I would file this under,

'hindsight is 20-20,'" programming president Casey Bloys said Wednesday. HBO was misguided in expecting that "we would be able to announce an idea that is so sensitive and requires so much care and thought on the part of the producers in a press release."

If HBO got a do-over, it

would have given producers the chance to publicly detail why they wanted to do the series, an understanding that HBO executives had gained before green-lighting the series from "Game of Thrones" masterminds David Benioff and D.B. Weiss.

Benioff and Weiss, who are white, also will serve as show-

runners on the series. They'll work with Malcolm Spellman ("Empire," the forthcoming "Foxy Brown") and Nichelle Tramble Spellman ("Justified," "The Good Wife"), husband-and-wife TV veterans who both are black and who will be fellow executive producers and writers on the new series.



# Dylan O'Brien says acting helped recovery from set injuries

**LOS ANGELES (AP)**—Dylan O'Brien says that sticking with his lead role in the action movie "American Assassin" helped him recover from a traumatic accident during filming of a "Maze Runner" sequel in March 2016.

O'Brien told The Associated Press on Monday that being back on a set was a necessary step in his recovery. He said at times after the accident he felt like he wasn't going to be able to return to filming, but he didn't want to let acting go.

"It really helped a lot, actually. It sort of became in a way that step that I needed in recovery to know I could do it again, I could still be on a set and things could be done in

the right way, too, and things could be done safely in the way that they're supposed to be done," O'Brien said.

"American Assassin" involved numerous stunts and fight scenes. "I didn't want to let go. It would have been hard to say you know, 'Ah, forget it. I'm not going to be able to make it.' Which I did genuinely feel for the longest time. But I just—I decided that it was probably going to be best for me mentally actually to do it."

He declined to discuss his injuries sustained or what



O'Brien

he remembered about the accident while filming a sequence involving two vehicles in British Columbia, Canada. But he said the shock of the accident helped him to understand his character in "American Assassin," who becomes

a CIA counter-terrorism operative after his fiancée is killed by terrorists.

"Going through any sort of trauma like that, funny enough, I felt like I was more informed about the aftermath of an incident like the one my character goes through than I

ever could've been," O'Brien, 25, said. "So I kind of then ended up having a lot of pride in sort of diving into that, portraying that."

Co-star Sanaa Lathan says she could see how O'Brien used his own experience in his performance.

"He's been through a lot," she said. "I was really impressed with how he brought that depth and that pain to this character. I really believed it. ... I haven't talked to him about this, but it probably was a cathartic form of therapy too, to just get it out."

The "Teen Wolf" star has remained largely out of view and hasn't publicly discussed the accident or extent of his

injuries, which were serious enough to halt production on the film, subtitled "The Death Cure," for nearly a year.

A report prepared by the occupational safety agency WorkSafe BC said O'Brien's accident happened after a change was made to an action sequence involving two vehicles that were not connected. It stated that drivers would have to keep the two vehicles close enough together to make the stunt work, and that O'Brien was harnessed to one vehicle while physically riding on the back of another. Several details about the accident were redacted, and the report did not detail O'Brien's injuries.

Worksafe BC stated that

a meeting was not held after filming plans were changed. The agency later determined that the production had complied with its recommendations, which included that appropriate rehearsals should be performed and certain high-risk sequences should be done by qualified stunt people.

Last week, O'Brien made his eighth and final appearance with his "Teen Wolf" co-stars at San Diego's massive Comic-Con.

"It's always kind of weird, man—it's great though. It's a great weird. Comic-Con has always cracked me up," O'Brien said.

"American Assassin" hits theatres in September.



This image released by Annapurna Pictures shows a scene from "Detroit."

## Steven Spielberg opens up about life, filmmaking in HBO doc

**BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. (AP)**—Steven Spielberg isn't afraid to talk about his flops.

"Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom" is his least favorite film in that franchise, says documentarian Susan Lacy, who spent more than 30 hours interviewing the filmmaker for "Spielberg," premiering Oct. 7 on HBO.

Spielberg also acknowledges some mistakes in "1941," Lacy said Wednesday at the Television Critics Association's summer meeting.

She said she only expected to have four interviews with the traditionally private filmmaker, but that they ended up meeting 17 times.

"I can only guess that turning 70 is a turning point for many people," said Lacy, who created and produced the "American Masters" series on PBS for decades. Spielberg turned 70 in December.

She also spoke with Spielberg's parents and sister, as well as scores of his collaborators, including Daniel Day-Lewis, Matt Damon and Tom Cruise.

The most compelling thing about Spielberg, both to his colleagues and to Lacy, is his deep knowledge of and enthusiasm for the medium, she said.

"I could not believe how articulate he was about the process of making films and his process of making films, and how much fun he had talking about it," she said. "Every actor I interviewed—and I interviewed everybody... that's what they were most impressed with: How much he understands the process of filmmaking and how he sees ahead when he's shooting... There are very few filmmakers who

have that skill, and it impressed everyone."

Lacy described her subject as both a populist and an artist, saying his early work reflects his life in the suburbs and as a child of divorce and his later movies pay homage to the classic Hollywood filmmakers he admired, such as William Wyler and John Ford.

She said Spielberg never tried to influence her documentary's approach and that he didn't see the film until it was finished. When he called Lacy to say he liked it, she let out a two-year-old sigh of relief.

"I didn't allow myself to go there: What happens if Steven Spielberg doesn't like the movie?" she said. "If I'd thought about that, I'd probably have been frozen and immobilized and not able to do it."

"Spielberg" focuses on his work as a director. Lacy said she doesn't get much into his philanthropic efforts or his various projects as a producer.

The documentary's most valuable message for future filmmakers and other creative people, she said, is Spielberg's belief in himself.

"Having a vision and sticking to it and not letting anybody get in the way of it is probably the best lesson you can learn from Steven Spielberg," Lacy said. "The decision to make 'Schindler's List,' a 3 1/2-hour black-and-white movie about the Holocaust, that didn't come out of any kind of focus group. That was a belief that it was something he needed to do."

Spielberg won his first directing Oscar for the 1994 film, which was also named best picture.

## Bigelow explores a horrific history in 'Detroit'

By **LINDSEY BAHR**  
AP FILM WRITER

There is no nice or pretty way to tell a story about the systemic oppression and mistreatment of black people in the United States. It's fitting then that Kathryn Bigelow's "Detroit," an account of the murders of three unarmed black men that took place in the Algiers Motel in late July 1967, is neither—it is an all-out assault on your senses and soul.

It's hard to overstate just how visceral and harrowing an experience it is. "Detroit" is a well-made and evocative film that is also numbingly brutal with little to no reprieve. And while it might be the only true way to tell this story, it's also one that is not going to be for everyone. The stomach-churning horror begins immediately and does not let up for 2 hours and 23 minutes.

To set the stage for the Algiers Motel, Bigelow begins by speeding through the history of black people in United States with animated acrylics and pounding music—eman-

cipation, the great migration, white flight and the racist zoning practices that led to the overcrowding of black residents in urban pockets. Tensions have already reached a tipping point, and then in the summer of 1967, Detroit police bust an after-hours club in what would become the inciting incident for the riots.

Three days after the riots begin, a local singing group called The Dramatics are about to go on stage at a big, crowded theater hoping to get their big break, but are interrupted and sent home due to the events outside. The men exit the theater in their sparkly suits into what looks like a war zone. As they run through the streets they assure every cop who isn't already beating someone with a night stick that they're just on their way home. Bigelow shows all of this with handheld, ground level docudrama realism. There is no orienting yourself to the bigger picture, only what is right in front of you.

The charismatic lead singer Larry (Algee Smith) and his

buddy Fred (Jacob Latimore) decide to peel off and get an \$11 room at the Algiers and wait out the night. There they meet two white party girls, a veteran, Greene (a terrific Anthony Mackie), and a provocateur, Carl (Jason Mitchell), who plays around with a starter pistol that eventually catches the attention of the police in the area. The officers, who we've already learned are rotten, storm the motel on the hunt for the sniper they presume is there.

The local police, led by a maniacal, hotheaded racist, Krauss (played by the English actor Will Poulter), kills Carl immediately and then continue to terrorize the guests relentlessly with inhuman torture tactics in what seems like an endless sequence of horror upon horror until two more end up dead and they call it a night.

Bigelow collaborated again with screenwriter Mark Boal on "Detroit," which is perfectly evocative of this specific time and place, but the lacking perspective and illumination that one might hope

a 50-year-old event would warrant. Perhaps they wanted to leave conclusions and interpreting to the audience.

There is some nuance—in the National Guard officer who is horrified by the situation and the local security officer (John Boyega) who only wanted to ease tensions—but not nearly as much as Bigelow and Boal have previously achieved in "Zero Dark Thirty" and "The Hurt Locker."

Also very little insight is given to the victims' lives outside of this event. Maybe that's not the point, though. Maybe anger is all you're supposed to feel when you step outside the theater. Maybe not feeling satisfied with "Detroit" is the point.

This was America, you think. This is still America. And the movies can't offer a resolution that history hasn't.

"Detroit," an Annapurna Pictures release, is rated R by the Motion Picture Association of America for "strong violence and pervasive language." Running time: 143 minutes. Three stars out of four.



## Whitehead, Roy among Man Booker contenders

**LONDON (AP)**—Paul Auster, Colson Whitehead and past winner Arundhati Roy are among contenders for this year's Man Booker Prize for fiction.

Auster's intimate epic "4 3 2 1" and Whitehead's fantasy-tinged historical saga "The Underground Railroad" are among four works by U.S. authors on the list, alongside Emily Fridlund's coming-of-age story "History of Wolves" and George Saunders' magical, mournful "Lincoln in the Bardo."

Roy, who won the prize in 1997 for "The God of Small Things," is in the running again with her long-awaited second novel, "The Ministry of Utmost Happiness."

Previous finalists on the 2017 list include Britain's Zadie Smith, for "Swing Time;" Ireland's Sebastian Barry, for "Days Without End;" and Pakistan's Mohsin Hamid, for "Exit West."

The 13 books announced Thursday were chosen from 144 novels submitted by publishers.

Literary critic Lola Young, chairwoman of the judging panel, said the list contained works of "huge energy, imagination and variety."

Founded in 1969 and originally open only to writers from Britain, Ireland and the Commonwealth, the Booker expanded in 2014 to include all English-language authors. Its first American winner was Paul Beatty's "The Sellout" in 2016.

The six finalists will be named Sept. 13, and the winner of the 50,000-pound (\$65,000) prize will be announced on Oct. 17.

## Bomer plays haunted whiz kid in 'The Last Tycoon'

**NEW YORK (AP)**—When he landed the lead in Amazon Prime's "The Last Tycoon," Matt Bomer had never read the timeless F. Scott Fitzgerald novella on which the series is based. But by chance, he had just finished another celebrated novel set in 1930s Hollywood, Nathanael West's "The Day of the Locust."

"I was contemplating the themes both books deal with: How do you maintain your artistry in such a commercial industry as the movies—and can you? And I was thinking about how much Hollywood has changed since that time period. And how little has really changed."

Before long, Bomer would be poring over Fitzgerald's prose to prepare for his "Last Tycoon" portrayal.

To be released Friday, "The Last Tycoon" tells of Monroe Stahr (Bomer), a whiz-kid film producer with a sure eye but a broken heart—a congenital heart defect that means he is living on borrowed time while he mourns the recent death of his wife (and the studio's biggest star). Consumed with making a perfect motion picture that can stand as his legacy, he clashes with his studio boss and father figure, Pat Brady, played by Kelsey Grammer.

The role fits Bomer as comfortably as the rakish double-breasted suits in which Stahr presides as the studio's golden boy. (Or maybe even more comfortably: "Those suits were

so snugly tailored that sometimes I had a hard time breathing," Bomer says with a laugh.)

It's only the latest ambitious turn by the 39-year-old actor, who's best known from his six seasons as transformed con artist Neal Caffrey on "White Collar," but who has also starred in "Magic Mike" and its sequel, the TV film "The Normal Heart" alongside Julia Roberts and Jim Parsons, and on "American Horror Story: Hotel."

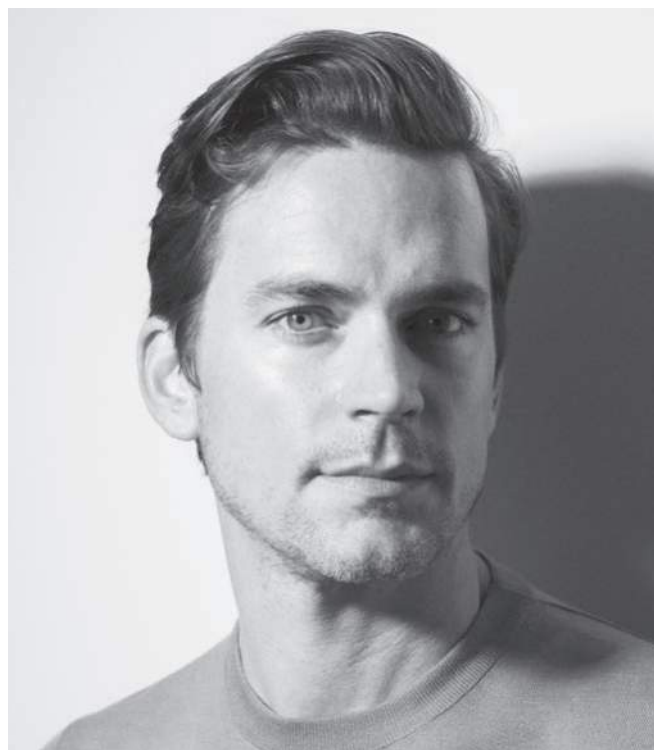
This "Last Tycoon" follows in the footsteps of the 1976 feature film directed by Elia Kazan and starring Robert De Niro and Robert Mitchum.

"Kazan and De Niro? We're not trying to replicate the movie!" exclaims Bomer. "But with our series we can take the essence of the original story and fan it out. A lot was going on then."

A lot is going on with the series' lavish production values and the dazzling Tinseltown style it revives.

"To recreate the 1930s in Hollywood is irresistible," says executive producer Christopher Keyser, speaking for himself as well as the audience: "It's like this amazing toy that you want to play with."

But at the same time, the Depression is literally at Brady American's studio gates: a Hooverville of homeless people is encamped beside the lot. Meanwhile, the Nazi threat is bearing down on the free world—and on Stahr



In this June 6, 2017 photo, actor Matt Bomer, star of Amazon series, "The Last Tycoon," poses for a portrait in New York.

as he fights to stay true to his artistic vision against political and commercial pressures.

Bomer meant to stay true to Fitzgerald's vision in his performance.

"I read the novel several times," he says. "I'd highlight passages that I thought were really central to the character. I wrote them in my notebook so I could always refer to them as we were going scene by scene. That was my way of trying to keep F. Scott in the picture."

What did he discover about his character from this immersion?

"I learned a lot about self-reinvention," Bomer says. "How you can be born Milton Sternberg in the Bronx and then become Monroe Stahr in Hollywood."

Reinvention is a fact of life for any actor, but it has also often been part of the plan for Hollywood's behind-the-scenes moguls. In the past, many tried to leave behind their Jewish identity as they claimed power in a town where anti-Semitism once flourished. And, as with Stahr, they always felt apart from the world they dominated.

That rang familiar for Bomer.

"As a gay man in Hollywood," he says, "I certainly understand what it means to be IN it, but not OF it, to be marginalized at times and kept out of certain clubs. That was a close parallel."

Series creator Billy Ray says that, while there was a bit of a leap of faith in selecting Bomer for the role—a character different from any he had played before—"one day into pre-production, we knew we had the guy. Who he is, what he's overcome, what he's made of himself—all of that gives Matt a kind of insight into what it must have been to be Milton Sternberg turning himself into Monroe Stahr."

In 2011, Bomer married his longtime partner, publicist Simon Halls, with whom he has three sons. He publicly came out five years ago by recognizing Halls and their children while accepting an award for his efforts in the fight against HIV and AIDS.

He grew up in a Houston suburb in a loving yet "church-going-two-to-three-times-a-week" family, which helps account for what he recalls as "a little sense of alienation."

"But they're scars that I'm fond of and grateful for, in a way," Bomer says. "Hopefully, they've only helped me to become more interesting and compassionate. Not someone who feels less than or other than."

## HBO doc 'Baltimore Rising' explores life after Freddie Gray

**BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. (AP)**—The producers and participants in "Baltimore Rising" say national and local media sensationalized the protests that erupted after the

death of Freddie Gray, but that their new documentary humanizes the narrative.

Activists Kwame Rose and Makayla Gilliam-Price appeared alongside direc-

tor Sonja Sohn Wednesday at the Television Critics Association's summer meeting to discuss the documentary premiering on HBO in November.

Those activists and Baltimore Police Lt. Melvin Russell say media coverage of the participants in protests against police brutality have created deeper divides in society.

He urged the media attending Wednesday's meeting to create more "relational equity" to engender trust among community members and police.

## Guilt mingles with grief after boyfriend's death

**DEAR ABBY:** My boyfriend died unexpectedly a few months ago, and it has been a struggle to get through my sadness. We had been through a lot in the year and a half we were dating, including some infidelities on my part.

Aside from my sadness and guilt, I'm struggling with the fear that I'll never live down my infidelities or be able to make it up to him. It is clouding the positive memories I have of him. I don't know how to stop my thoughts from going all over the place. Please help.

SAD IN SACRAMENTO

**DEAR SAD:** Much as we might wish to, none of us can change the past. I assume that you have now learned that it's best to remain faithful in your romantic relationships. That's a step in the right direction. The next step is to resolve that in future relationships you won't stray, and if you are tempted to, you will discuss with your boyfriend what you feel is missing in your relationship.

As to how to disrupt the intrusive memories that keep flooding back, a technique many people use is to REMIND themselves to stay in the moment each time an unwanted memory pops up. The technique is called "mindfulness," and it works.

■ ■ ■ ■

**DEAR ABBY:** I am wondering what the rule is for socializing at the gym. I work out twice a week with a friend, and we usually do part of our workout on the treadmill. While we walk, we will chat. We don't talk loudly, and we never use offensive language. It's just general chit-chat about kids, work, etc.

Twice, one woman (the same woman) has ordered us to stop talking because we "bother" her. She wears headphones while she watches TV, but she says she can still hear us.

Abby, when I wear headphones (even on a very low volume), it tunes out almost everything. By her strong reaction, I am assuming this woman is unusually sensitive to noise, but this is a gym, not a library. We never monopolize the machines. I don't think I have ever been called rude in any other situation, and I always try to be pleasant and accommodating, so I would appreciate your thoughts.

CHERYL IN HOUSTON

■ ■ ■ ■

**DEAR CHERYL:** I do have a few. When people work out at a shared facility, they have to expect there will be other people there. Treadmills make noise, and sometimes it's necessary to speak in a louder than normal voice in order to be heard. If the woman complains again, suggest she move to a treadmill farther away or increase the volume on her headphones so your conversation won't disturb her. However, if that doesn't satisfy her, mention that she might

### DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN  
FROM UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at [www.DearAbby.com](http://www.DearAbby.com) or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



**be happier if she worked out at a different time when the place isn't as full.**

**DEAR ABBY:** Most everyone appears to be fighting over politics these days, and there's even in-fighting within each side. Will it ever stop?

BAFFLED IN THE EAST

■ ■ ■ ■

**DEAR BAFFLED:** Perhaps. But it won't happen until people stop shouting (literally and figuratively), decide to bring civility back and start listening respectfully to each other.

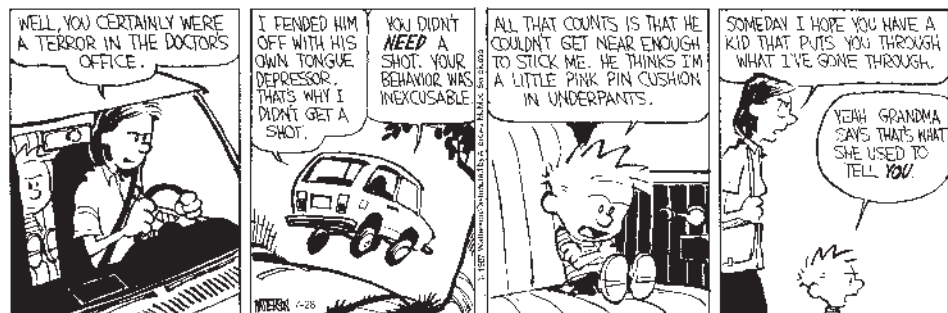
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# Pastimes

## Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



## Garfield®

By Jim Davis



## Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



## The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



## CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

**ACROSS**

1 Cornfield noise  
4 Solidify  
7 Test versions  
12 Docs' org.  
13 The whole enchilada  
14 Grace-land idol  
15 Wire measure  
16 Cost of flying  
18 Conclude  
19 "Grace-land" singer Paul  
20 Weaving machine  
22 Scull tool  
23 Cello's ancestor  
27 Ambulance VIP  
29 Puny  
31 Pulitzer category  
34 Liquefy  
35 Dawn goddess  
37 Actor Kilmer

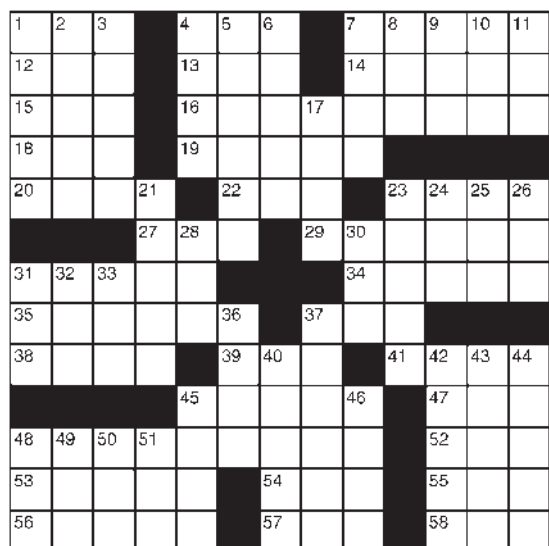
**DOWN**

1 Caravan team  
2 Acid type  
3 Ralph — Emerson  
4 Openings  
5 Mama Cass  
6 Andean animal  
7 "It's — real!"  
8 Sprite  
9 FDR project  
10 Football filler  
11 Compass dir.  
17 Standard  
21 Office notes  
23 Bank structure  
24 Leb. neighbor  
25 World Cup cheer  
26 Caustic solution  
28 Scratch watchdog  
31 River blocker  
32 Wish undone  
33 Illustrations  
36 "Dream on!"  
37 City of canals  
40 Got wind of  
42 The Ram  
43 Music for nine  
44 Socially awkward  
45 Greek salad cheese  
46 Sketch  
48 Congeal  
49 — chi  
50 One-time link  
51 Pitch

**Solution time: 25 mins.**

V	A	T	N	E	A	P	C	A	B	S
E	V	F	U	M	P	S	U	F	O	S
T	E	N	A	C	I	T	Y	R	E	I
E	L	L	S	C	R	A	W	L	S	
C	O	M	P	E	L	H	I	T		
O	D	E	I	S	P	G	O	T	O	
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B	A	T	C	H	R	I	P	R	A	T
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U	G	L	I	H	E	I	C	H	T	E
G	A	T	E	T	T	E	M	L		
O	D	O	R	R	I	S	E	N	O	T

Yesterday's answer 7-28



## STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-800-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

**CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY:** Lori Loughlin, 53; Sally Struthers, 70; Jim Davis, 72, Peter Cullen, 76.

**Happy Birthday:** Communication will be your ticket to getting ahead. Size up each situation you face and consider the best way to go about getting what you want. Having a strategy in place will help you overcome any pitfalls you encounter along the way and encourage you to complete whatever you start. Personal improvements are featured, and romance is in the stars. Your numbers are 7, 13, 19, 21, 25, 32, 41.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19):** Partnerships will be problematic if you let your emotions take over. Keep your opinions to yourself until you get all the facts. Things will not be as they appear, and acting prematurely will cause unnecessary angst. \*\*\*

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20):** Opportunity will not unfold if you procrastinate or put your future in someone else's hands. Strive to make things happen and you won't be disappointed. Use your charm and aim for quality, not quantity, and you will get ahead. \*\*\*

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20):** Socialize with people who have something to offer. Networking functions will prove interesting from both a personal and professional perspective. An opportunity to get to know someone special will lead to exciting new prospects. \*\*\*\*\*

**CANCER (June 21-July 22):** Problems at home will surface if you overreact or overspend. Refrain from letting someone

from your past back into your life if it will have an adverse effect on what you do. Avoid indulgent people and pastimes. \*\*

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22):** Plan a day trip or get together with old friends or relatives. Talking with others will help you see your life through different eyes. Children and seniors will offer interesting insights into a situation you face. Listen carefully. \*\*\*\*

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22):** Take care of your responsibilities quickly and move on to more enjoyable pastimes. Make plans with someone you want to get to know better. An activity or event you attend will prompt you to take on something new and exciting. \*\*\*

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22):** You'll have a tendency to take on too much or to over-indulge. Take extra time to prepare and to make personal improvements that will make you feel good about the way you look and who you are. Love and romance are featured. \*\*\*

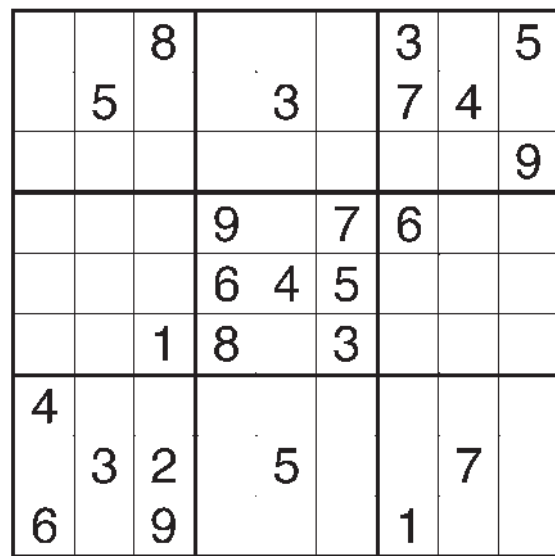
**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21):** Make simple, straightforward plans and stick to them. If you take on too much or you let someone take advantage of you, it will lead to anger and disappointment. Set things up at home to make your life easier. \*\*\*

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21):** Think big and follow through with your plans. You can bring about changes if you take action. Talk with mean very little if that's all you do. A new partnership at work looks promising. A commitment can be made. \*\*\*\*

## SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green



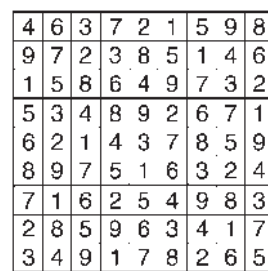
Difficulty Level ★★★★★

7/28

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer



Difficulty Level: ★★

7/27

## EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19):** Avoid explosive or unconventional situations that make you feel uneasy. Aim to stick to a budget and not let temptation draw you into a deal or partnership that isn't in your best interest. Excess and indulgence are best avoided. \*\*



**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18):** It's up to you to bring about positive changes. Don't wait for someone else to take over. Deal with matters that will affect your earning potential and that will give you greater opportunity to use your skills. Celebrate with someone you love. \*\*\*\*\*



**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20):** Don't feel like you have to give, do or spend too much in order to impress someone or win favors. It's best to be practical and moderate, thinking matters through carefully to avoid being taken advantage of. \*\*\*

**Birthday Baby:** You are sophisticated, intelligent and compassionate. You are dynamic and appealing.

Eugenia's website—[eugenialast.com](http://eugenialast.com), Eugenia's android app @ <http://bit.ly/exhoro> and join Eugenia on [twitter](https://twitter.com/eugenialast)/[facebook](https://facebook.com/eugenialast)/[linkedin](https://linkedin.com/company/eugenialast).

## WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

**HOW TO PLAY:** All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

SODDING

Solution: 14 letters



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7/28

Area, Bentgrass, Bluegrass, Cleaning, Compost, Cost, Cut, Dark, Discovery, Field, Fresh, Garden, Grade, Green, Grounds, Growth, Harvest, Home, Join, Lawn, Lime, Lush, Mead, Parks, Pat, Peak, Red Fescue, Roller, Rolling, Roots, Rough, Seeds, Shape, Size, Smooth, Sprinkler, Staggered, Staked, St. Augustine, Topsoil, Tractor, Turf, Unroll, Water, Yard

Yesterday's Answer: Fullness

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PRO SE

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT  
OF THE  
COMMONWEALTH OF THE  
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

In the Matter of the ) FCD CN  
Petition for the Change ) CIVIL ACTION  
of Name of: ) NO. 17-0352  
Glory Nina Legaspi )  
(Incompetent) ) NOTICE OF  
) HEARING  
By: Faustina Legaspi )  
(Guardian) )  
Petitioner )

Notice is hereby given that the  
above-entitled matter is set for a hearing  
on August 17, 2017, at 10:30 a.m. in  
Courtroom 205A before Honorable Judge  
Kenneth L. Govendo.

Dated this 25<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2017.

Patrick V. Diaz  
Clerk of Court

/s/ By: Deputy Clerk of Court

Name: Linda B. Ada  
Address: P.O. Box 501886  
Saipan MP 96950  
Telephone: 288-5005  
788-5005

PRO SE

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT  
OF THE  
COMMONWEALTH OF THE  
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

In the Matter Of The ) FCD GU  
Petition To Appoint ) CIVIL ACTION  
General Guardianship For: ) NO. 17-0199  
)  
V.J.J.J. B.A. ) NOTICE OF  
Minor Child ) HEARING  
)  
By: )  
Vicente S./Linda B. Ada )  
Petitioners )

Notice is hereby given that the  
above-entitled matter is set for a hearing  
on August 17, 2017, at 10:30 a.m. in  
Courtroom 205A before Honorable Judge  
Kenneth L. Govendo.

Dated this 25<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2017.

Patrick V. Diaz  
Clerk of Court

/s/ By: Deputy Clerk of Court

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# Sale away: Red Sox ace Ks 11 in 4-0 win over Mariners



**SEATTLE**  
(AP)—When Chris Sale

woke up Wednesday, he was unaware the Red Sox were on a four-game losing streak.

"I actually fell asleep before the end of it. I woke up this morning and heard the news," Sale said of Boston's 13-inning loss the previous night.

Sale was brilliant, pitching seven innings of three-hit ball in a 4-0 win over the Seattle Mariners that featured a home run by 20-year-old Rafael Devers, who became the youngest Boston player to hit a home run in more than 50 years.

Sale headed back to the team hotel early on Tuesday night to be rested for a day game. He didn't know about Seattle's two-run rally in the 13th inning, shortly after midnight.

About 12 hours later, the Red Sox got exactly what they needed from their ace to avoid being swept. He struck out 11, the 14th time this season he reached double digits. Sale allowed doubles to Jean Segura and Guillermo Heredia, and a broken-bat single to Ben Gamel, but none of the three to reach base via hit ever advanced.

"It's deception, it's angle. He does a lot of things well," Gamel said.

Sale (13-4) has struck out at least nine batters in each of his 12 road starts this season, the longest streak dating to 1913. He's won five of his last six decisions and became the first AL pitcher with 13 wins.

In two starts on Boston's trip, Sale allowed seven hits in 13 innings and struck out 20.

"We're watching one of the better years ever pitched by a major league pitcher in the American League," Boston manager John Farrell said. "We're fortunate it's in our uniform."

A day after his major league debut, Devers led off the third inning by sending a 2-1 fastball from starter Andrew Moore out to center field for his first hit in the majors. At 20 years and 275 days old, Devers was the youngest Red Sox player to homer since Tony Conigliaro in September 1965. Devers added a single in the seventh inning.

"It was surreal. When I got back to the dugout I could barely walk to be honest with you," Devers said through an interpreter. "I was just so happy about it. It was just a good moment."

Moore (1-3) was solid, but the long ball was his problem. Along with Devers' shot, Moore gave up a two-out, two-run homer to Sandy Leon in the fourth inning. Moore hung a 1-2 curveball and Leon hit his sixth homer of the sea-



Boston Red Sox's Hanley Ramirez, right, celebrates after he scored a run past Seattle Mariners catcher Mike Zunino on an RBI single hit by Sandy Leon in the 13th inning of a baseball game, Tuesday, July 25, 2017, in Seattle.

July 1, 2003.

Christian Yelich hit a solo homer in the first for the Marlins, and Marcell Ozuna's three-run triple in the fourth made it 9-2 to chase Darvish (6-9). J.T. Realmuto and Giancarlo Stanton later went deep, with Stanton hitting a 468-foot drive for his major league-leading 33rd homer.

Adrian Beltre homered and had two doubles, giving the Rangers third baseman 2,996 hits. He was ejected in the eighth in a dispute with plate umpire Gerry Davis over where Beltre stood while on deck to hit.

Jose Urena (9-4) allowed five runs, four hits and four walks in five-plus innings.

## Cardinals 10, Rockies 5

In St. Louis, Paul DeJong hit his eighth home run in July, a two-run drive in the first off Jeff Hoffman (6-3).

Randal Grichuk had a career-high four hits and Harrison Bader had three hits in his second major league game.

Carlos Martinez (7-8) struck out eight and gave up five runs and seven hits in six innings for his first win since June 16.

St. Louis has won four of five while Colorado has lost four of six. The Rockies announced after the game that they have acquired right-hander Pat Neshek from Philadelphia for minor league pitchers J.D. Hammer, Alejandro Requena and infielder Jose Gomez.

## Padres 6, Mets 3

In San Diego, Luis Torrens had three RBIs, Manuel Margot homered and Jhoulys Chacin (10-7) gave up two runs and four hits in 5 1/3 innings.

Brad Hand got three outs for his fourth save, extending his scoreless string to 17 1/3 innings.

Steven Matz (2-4) gave up six runs and nine hits in three innings and is 0-3 in his last five starts.

## Dodgers 6, Twins 5

In Los Angeles, Justin Turner hit a game-ending single with two outs in the ninth off All-Star closer Brandon Kintzler (2-2) as Los Angeles rallied from a 5-0 fourth-inning deficit to win their fifth straight and improve the major leagues' best record to 71-31.

Kenley Jansen (5-0) pitched a scoreless ninth.

son. Moore was able to save Seattle's bullpen by lasting 6 2/3 innings.

"He's learning. Certainly, I like his competitiveness. He just didn't have that pitch to finish them today and the home run ball got him," Seattle manager Scott Servais said of Moore. "I do like the way he's able to make adjustments in-game, he's done that a number of times."

## Yankees 9, Reds 5

In New York, Luis Severino (7-4) struck out nine over seven innings, allowing a pair of unearned runs and three hits as New York completed a two-game sweep.

Didi Gregorius hit his fourth homer in three games and Todd Frazier hit his first homer for the Yankees, who have won consecutive series after going 0-8-2 in series after sweeping Baltimore from June 9-11. The Yankees have won eight of 12 following a 7-19 slide.

Cincinnati has lost three straight and is 2-11 since the All-Star break. Homer Bailey (2-5) lost his third start in a row, giving up seven runs — five earned — and 10 hits in six-plus innings.

## Rays 5, Orioles 1

In St. Petersburg, Florida, Evan Longoria and Steven Souza Jr. homered, and Alex Cobb (9-6) gave up one run and four hits in seven innings.

Longoria's two-run homer off Ubaldo Jimenez (4-7) put Tampa Bay ahead 2-1 in the sixth, and Souza hit his 21st homer this season in the seventh against Darren O'Day.

## Diamondbacks 10, Braves 3

In Phoenix, J.D. Martinez homered twice and Ketel Marte hit an inside-the-park,

two-run homer.

Martinez has homered three times in three days, his first home runs since he was acquired from Detroit.

Patrick Corbin (8-9) gave up two runs and seven hits in six innings. Aaron Blair (0-1) allowed five runs, five hits and five walks in three innings.

## Giants 2, Pirates 1

In San Francisco, Brandon Belt hit a tiebreaking double in the seventh against Tony Watson (5-3) on a routine fly that left fielder Starling Marte had trouble seeing because sun and wind.

Jeff Samardzija (5-11) allowed one run and four hits in seven innings, and Sam Dyson worked the ninth for his sixth save.

## Cubs 8, White Sox 3

In Chicago, Jake Arrieta (10-7) gave up two runs and three hits in 6 2/3 innings and the World Series champions moved a season-high six games over .500 at 53-47. Chicago leads the NL Central by a half-game over Milwaukee after trailing the Brewers by 5 1/2 games just two weeks ago.

Anthony Rizzo had three hits and four RBIs, helping the Cubs improve to 10-2 since the All-Star break. Addison Russell hit a solo homer in the ninth.

Top prospect Yoan Moncada hit his first career homer and Alen Hanson also went deep, but the White Sox lost for the 11th time in 12 games. Third baseman Yolmer Sanchez committed a costly error and James Shields (2-3) lasted just four-plus innings.

The White Sox played without All-Star outfielder Avisail Garcia, who is expected to miss a couple weeks after an MRI revealed a strained ligament in his right thumb.

## Nationals 8, Brewers 5

In Washington, Bryce Harper extended his hitting streak to a career-high 18 games, then was ejected for arguing with plate umpire Chris Segal after striking out in the eighth inning with runners at the corners.

Washington said it will put star right-hander Stephen Strasburg on the disabled list Thursday with a nerve impingement that is causing pain in his right forearm. The move will be retroactive to Monday, and Nationals manager Dusty Baker said Strasburg will miss one turn.

Ryan Zimmerman and Adam Lind had two-run doubles in a seven-run eighth inning.

Milwaukee's Domingo Santana hit a first-inning home run that landed on the concourse beyond the left-field stands, a drive that would have traveled 476 feet unimpeded, according to MLB's Statcast.

Ryan Madson (1-0) pitched a scoreless inning, and Jacob Barnes (3-2) wasted a 2-1 lead.

## Blue Jays 3, Athletics 2

In Toronto, Justin Smoak hit a tying two-run homer in the ninth off Santiago Casilla (2-5) and Kendrys Morales homered on the next pitch. Toronto has hit consecutive homers six times this year, the last three occasions involving Smoak and Morales.

Joe Biagini (3-8) pitched two-thirds of an inning.

## Phillies 9, Astros 0

In Philadelphia, Aaron Nola (8-6) struck out a career-high 10 over six innings, allowing four hits. He is 5-1 with a 1.49 ERA over his last seven starts.

Cameron Rupp hit two home runs and had four RBIs. Maikel Franco homered and doubled and Tommy Joseph

had two doubles for the Phillies, who had 14 hits while setting season highs with five doubles and nine extra-base hits.

Mike Fiers (7-5) allowed three runs and five hits in four innings.

## Royals 16, Tigers 2

In Detroit, Eric Hosmer matched his career high with five hits, including his first major league grand slam, and had six RBIs and four runs.

Hosmer entered with 117 homers but had not hit one with the bases loaded until he connected off Warwick Saupold in a nine-run seventh inning.

Bruce Rondon was ejected with one out in the ninth after hitting Mike Moustakas on the back with a pitch, which caused both benches to empty. Utilityman Andrew Romine entered in his third big league pitching appearance.

Ian Kennedy (4-6) improved to 3-0 in his last six starts, allowing one run and three hits in six innings. Anibal Sanchez (2-1) gave up four runs and nine hits in 3 2/3 innings.

## Indians 10, Angels 4

In Cleveland, rookie Bradley Zimmer homered and drove in the go-ahead run with a seventh-inning double as Cleveland won its sixth in a row, matching a season high.

Zimmer hit a leadoff homer and broke a 2-all tie with a two-out double against Ricky Nolasco (4-12). Bryan Shaw (4-4) was the winner.

## Marlins 22, Rangers 10

In Arlington, Texas, Dee Gordon homered on the first pitch thrown by Yu Darvish (6-9) and Miami set a franchise scoring record, topping a 20-1 win over Atlanta on



# Cavaliers execs reject Irving trade talk, deny team in chaos



**INDEPENDENCE, Ohio** (AP)—Cavaliers owner Dan Gilbert spent more than 30 minutes presenting a positive portrait of his franchise.

The reality is that the Cavs are troubled.

In his first public comments since Kyrie Irving asked to be traded, Gilbert would not confirm whether he'll honor the All-Star point guard's request, but he also didn't rule out the real possibility that Cleveland may deal its second best player—or if he thinks LeBron James will stay around beyond next season.

"These things are fluid," Gilbert said. "We think that Kyrie Irving is one of the best guards in the NBA. He was part of a championship, three years straight to the Finals and we value his talent—significantly."

Despite several direct questions about Irving's status, Gilbert would not provide any specifics about recent conversations with him or his agent. Gilbert said he expected the 25-year-old, whose jumper in Game 7 of the 2016 NBA Finals propelled Cleveland to its first championship since the Browns in 1964, to be at training camp with the team in September.

"Right now Kyrie Irving is under contract with the Cleveland Cavaliers for two or three years, depending on the last year," Gilbert said. "As of now he's one of our best players and sure, we expect him to be in camp."

Gilbert was clearly attempting to avoid making things worse for the Cavs or doing any further damage to the club's relationship with Irving, who has blossomed into the one of the league's best back-court players.

While Irving may want out, the Cavs aren't obligated to move him and new general



manager Koby Altman said Irving remains an important piece for a team that has been to three straight Finals.

"He's a core piece of what we've done," said Altman, who was promoted to full-time GM after filling in when David Griffin left earlier this summer. "Kyrie is a tremendous player. He has made great contributions to this franchise and we enjoy him as a player. We're going to keep this stuff in house in terms of what was said in those meetings, but he continues to be a core piece of who we are and what we do."

It's been turbulent summer for the Cavs, who didn't defend their title and were beaten in five games by Golden State in the Finals. The bumpy ride began with Griffin parting ways with the club over philosophical differences with Gilbert, who was then rebuffed in adding former Pistons guard Chauncey Billups to his front office.

And while numerous teams got stronger via free agency and trades, Cleveland was hamstrung financially by salary-cap issues.

Then, the Irving trade demand was a cannonball in Gilbert's backyard basketball pool.

"Well, how is your guys' summer going?" Gilbert quipped in a light-hearted moment.

Beyond its implications with the Cavs, Irving's appeal to be traded appears to have damaged

his relationship with James. The stars have taken swipes at each other with posts on social media, and it remains to be seen if they can patch things up.

Altman dismissed any Irving-James rift.

"I think a lot of it has been overblown," he said. "I think

New Cleveland Cavaliers general manager Koby Altman, left, listens as Cavaliers chairman Dan Gilbert answers questions about Cavalier player Kyrie Irving's demand to be traded, during a news conference at the Cavaliers training facility in Independence, Ohio, Wednesday, July 26, 2017.

the people who are in this building every day haven't seen any of that animosity. This is, along with Kevin Love, this is a group that got us to three straight Finals and won an NBA championship together. They play great together on the floor and a lot of that I do think is overblown."

Gilbert opened the news conference by introducing other members of Cleveland's front office, which was reconfigured following Griffin's departure last month. He then had high praise for Altman, who in the past few weeks has done all he could to bolster an aging Cleveland bench that

was exposed by the Warriors.

Altman also signed free agent guard Derrick Rose, who could be an option to start if the Cavs can't work things out with Irving.

"We signed him on my first official day on the job, so that's not a bad start, right?" Altman said of the 28-year-old Rose, a former league MVP.

Truth is, things may not be as bad for the Cavaliers as has been suggested.

In James, the Cavs still have the game's best all-around player and Cleveland remains the Eastern Conference's elite team despite Boston's acquisition of Gordon Hayward. The Cavs may not have closed the gap on the Warriors, but there isn't anyone on their heels—yet.

That could change next summer when James can opt out of his contract and hit the free-agent market.

For now, though, Gilbert and Altman said the three-time champion is invested in the Cavaliers.

## Wizards announce contract extension for John Wall

**WASHINGTON** (AP)—John Wall signed his \$170 million, four-year contract extension that owner Ted Leonsis said provides the Washington Wizards with long-term stability.

Team President Ernie Grunfeld announced the completion of the deal Wednesday. Wall said in a video posted on Twitter on Friday that he had agreed to the extension that begins in 2019-20 and includes a player option for 2023-24.

Wall, a four-time Eastern Conference All-Star, is the third player this summer to get a designated player "supermax" extension, joining

Houston's James Harden and Golden State's Stephen Curry.

"John is an exceptional talent and a cornerstone for our team," Leonsis said. "It's John's unique blend of skill and leadership that makes us a championship-caliber team."

The Wizards now have their big three locked up. Earlier this offseason they matched a \$106.5 million, four-year offer sheet forward Otto Porter Jr. signed with the Brooklyn Nets and last summer signed guard Bradley Beal to a \$128 million, five-year contract that goes through 2020-21.

Porter was temporary

Washington's highest-paid player, but that honor now belongs to Wall, the No. 1 pick in the 2010 draft out of Kentucky who set career highs with 23.1 points, 10.7 assists and 2.0 steals last season. Wall has averaged 18.8 points over seven NBA seasons.

"Returning to the only team I've known in my professional career was an easy decision for me," Wall said. "I understand my role as the leader of this franchise and I will continue to work hard to improve my game and make our team better. ... I'm excited to bring them and this city continued success and a team they can be

proud of."

The Wizards have made the playoffs three of the last four years. Wall averaged 27.2 points a game as Washington got to Game 7 of the second round this spring before losing to Boston.

"He has constantly worked to improve and expand his game and has developed into an all-NBA player who has elevated our franchise," Grunfeld said. "We are thrilled that he will continue to lead us through the prime years of his career and look forward to watching as he solidifies his place among the greatest players in our team's history."



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# Rota Blue Triathlon on Nov. 28

After a year’s hiatus, the annual Rota Blue Triathlon returns for its 23rd turn on Nov. 18, 2017, highlighting the pristine, untouched nature of the island of Rota in The Marianas.

A long-time favorite of Japanese triathletes who return year after year to compete, this year the triathlon is also seeking to attract more competitors from Guam and neighboring countries.

“We will come back to my favorite Rota with the super exciting triathlon soon,” announced Kiyokazu Onishi, president of Kiyokazu Fitness Club and co-creator of the Rota Blue Triathlon.

The event is jointly organized by the MVA, the Rota Mayor’s Office, and KFC.

“Rota Blue...the name really says it all,” said Marianas Visitors Authority managing director Christopher A. Concepcion. “A blue ocean with phenomenal visibility at Sasanhaya Bay and

blue skies over a spectacular course with lush nature and scenic views...Rota Blue is a must for any triathlete seeking an inspiring course and a truly memorable race experience.”

The triathlon features two distances: 1) a A-type half-marathon distance, which includes a 1.5-kilometer swim, followed by a 40-km rigorous biking course and a 10 km run (no time limit), and 2) B-type Olympic distance, which includes a 2.0 km swim, followed by a 90-km biking course and topped off with a 21-km run (8-hour time limit). For team competitors, there will also be triathlon of the A-type distance, again with no time limit.

The pre-race briefing for all participants will be held on Nov. 17, 2017, at Rota Resort & Country Club at 6:30pm. Starting time for both distances is 6:30am at Rota’s East Harbor. Wetsuits are per-

mitted, while bike helmets are required. Registration fees are lower this year: \$60 for A-type course solo competitors and \$50 for each member in a team. The fee for the B-type course is \$80. The entry fee includes and event T-shirt, high-quality swim cap, and an invitation to the awards banquet.

For more information or an application, visit the Events



Swimmers take to Sasanhayan Bay in the 22nd Annual Rota Blue Triathlon in 2015. The 23rd Rota Blue Triathlon will be held on Nov. 18, 2017, jointly organized by the Marianas Visitors Authority, Rota Mayor’s Office, and KFC Club of Japan.

Calendar at [www.mymarianas.com](http://www.mymarianas.com) or contact MVA Community Projects Specialist Ed Diaz at 1.670.664.3210 or [ediaz@mymarianas.com](mailto:ediaz@mymarianas.com), or contact Sandra Atalig at the MVA Rota Office at 1.670.532.0327 or [satalig@mymarianas.com](mailto:satalig@mymarianas.com). (MVA)

## KONQER early bird pricing ends July 31

Interested KONQER participants are encouraged to register prior to the July 31 deadline to receive the best pricing for the obstacle course event, set for Saturday, Sept. 9 at Gov. Eloy S. Inos Peace Park.

Current pricing for KONQER Saipan—King of the Hill is \$75 for adults and \$750 for a 10-member business league team. Pricing will increase to \$100 per adult and \$1,000 per business league team on Aug. 1. Student pricing will remain \$40 for students ages 15 to 17 and kids 14 years of age and under will be able to participate in the event free of charge with the supervision of a parent or guardian. All KONQER participants will be able to go through the obstacle course multiple times with a single paid admission.

Registration fees include an official KONQER T-shirt, bib, and wristband, one free Saipan Brewing Company beer or beverage at the post-race festivities, and a 50-percent discount on official KONQER merchandise.

All paid and complimentary participants must register online at [konqersports.com](http://konqersports.com), or in person at the Marianas Visitors Authority office.

KONQER Saipan is presented by MVA, and sponsored by Bank of Guam, Fiesta Saipan Resort and Spa, IT&E, *Marianas Variety*, and Saipan Brewing Company.

For more information, contact Kelli Wedd at [support@konqersports.com](mailto:support@konqersports.com), or visit [konqersports.com](http://konqersports.com). (PR)

## BOYER

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be racing against Saint Vincent and Grenadines’ Gooding Dillon, Nigeria’s Ifeakachuku Nmor, Honduras’ George Jabbour, Thailand’s Jeerakit Soammanus, Malta’s Mikhail Umnov, Mali’s Oumar Toure, Guyana’s Hannibal David Gaskin, and Swaziland’s Simanga Dlamini. There are eight qualifying heats in the 100m butterfly event.

Also set to compete in his final event today is Christian Villacrusis, who will participate in the 50m freestyle qualifier. The 17-year-old swimmer is on Heat 3 and aims to make his second PBT. He got his first via the 100m breaststroke event last Sunday after register-

ing 1:16.70. The time to beat for Villacrusis is his 27.02 seconds recorded during the 69th Annual Keo Nakama Invitational held early this month.

Meanwhile, Jinju Thompson raced in the 100m freestyle qualifier yesterday evening. She was on Heat 1 and swam against Timor-Leste’s Imelda Ximenes Belo, Maldives’ Aminath Shajan, Armenia’s Ani Poghosyan, Mauritius’ Elodie Poo-Cheong, Nigaragua’s Gabriela Hernandez, Mongolia’s Enkhkhuisen Batbayar, Rwanda’s Lidwine Umuhzoza, North Korea’s Song Mi Pak, and Burundi’s Lena Irankunda. Results of the preliminary races in the 100m freestyle were unavailable at press time. Thompson’s PBT in the two-lap event is 1:10.66.

## Cowboys’ Elliott smiles for fans, shuns media as issues loom

**O X N A R D , Calif.** (AP)—Ezekiel Elliott stopped for a few moments to greet military personnel and pose for a few pictures on the opening day of training camp.

Just like that, the star running back of the Dallas Cowboys darted out of a large crowd of reporters and ran toward a fence to sign a few autographs.

Last year’s NFL rushing leader as a rookie isn’t talking to media members because of lingering issues off the field, but Elliott is still hamming it up with adoring fans. And he’s also going through complete workouts a year after a hamstring issue limited his time in camp.

“I’m not even worrying about Zeke because that guy loves football,” said receiver Dez Bryant, who had his share of trouble upon entering the

league in 2010.

“I understand it’s more than football. He’s got a great supporting cast and he can’t lose with guys like us around him.”

The NFL has been investigating Elliott for more than a year over a domestic violence complaint that prosecutors in Ohio declined to pursue.

Owner Jerry Jones seems less convinced than he was a few months ago over whether the former Ohio State star will get suspended.

Elliott potentially damaged his standing a week before training camp by getting involved in a bar fight that ended with a 30-year-old man getting punched in the nose, although Elliott’s name didn’t appear in the police report.

Dallas police halted the investigation when the man who was punched couldn’t be reached. Jones has said he doesn’t have any other details

on the incident.

While Elliott waits for word from the NFL, he’s preparing for an encore to his 1,631-yard season that helped the Cowboys take the top seed in the NFC at 13-3 before losing to Green Bay in a divisional playoff.

Elliott, who turned 22 the day the Cowboys reported for camp in California, wasn’t the only rookie sensation for Dallas. Dak Prescott won NFL Offensive Rookie of the Year honors with one of the best debuts for a quarterback in league history.

And Prescott has proven to be a solid citizen off the field after having to answer to a drunken-driving charge in his college town of Starkville, Mississippi, after the Cowboys drafted the former Mississippi State standout.

Prescott has since been cleared in the case, but was

emphatic a year ago in saying it wouldn’t happen again.

“I’ve made probably as many bad decisions as any of these guys have, only being 23, so I’m definitely not one that I can point fingers and be mad,” said Prescott, who turns 24 Saturday. “All I can do is give from my young experience and the things that happened to me.”

If the budding franchise quarterback can help his young backfield mate, he doesn’t want to share that possibility publicly.

“But definitely he’s a good friend,” Prescott said. “So yeah, I mean, I take pride in helping him out every way on and off the field, yes.”

## CNMI

From Page 36

ing to build up a strong squad and they can do that by playing a lot of matches and having their experienced players guiding the young players,” the former Olympian said.

Veteran Li-Ping Zhuo anchored Hualien’s shutout win against the CNMI after scoring a pair of goals, while Ying-

Huie Chen, Ya-Chiah Yang, and Li-Chen Tsai chipped in one each. Tang put Hualien on the board right in the third minute, while Zhuo got her first goal in the 26th. The visiting team’s three other goals came in the second half with Chen starting the scoring in the 59th minute, Zhuo earning her second goal in the 68th, and Tsai closing out for Hualien

two minutes later.

Hualien dominated possession, while the CNMI made a couple of attempts to score and faltered.

The friendly match against the Chinese-Taipei squad came a month after the CNMI Women’s National Team completed a weeklong training camp in Japan where the Commonwealth bets played five games.

anas Health Armada’s 1-0-3 card. Hakone FC and F. Marinos have identical 3-0-1 marks to share the top spot in the girls U17 division.

Meanwhile, NMI U16 nosed out HK SSS in the last game yesterday, 5-4.

Jim Maniago scored the lone goal for the NMI U16 in the second half to lift his team to the close victory in the boys U16 tiff. Maniago also had one goal in the first half, while John Mark Anastacio nailed a pair all in the opening 20 minutes of

the game, and John Ezekiel Canape added one.

Joshua Daniel Moilig and R.J. Pangelinan registered two goals apiece for HK SSS, which is still winless in four games. HK SSS will try again to get the elusive first victory today when it takes on division leader Saipan Elite, which holds a 3-1-0 record. The boys U16 match is set for 5pm, while in the 3pm match, it will be NMI U16 versus 4Gives (2-1-1), and in the 4pm game, Isamu United will duel F. Marinos.

MLB STANDINGS				
AMERICAN LEAGUE				
East Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	56	47	.544	—
New York	53	46	.535	1
Tampa Bay	53	49	.520	2½
Baltimore	48	53	.475	7
Toronto	47	54	.465	8
Central Division				
Cleveland	54	45	.545	—
Kansas City	53	47	.530	1½
Minnesota	49	51	.485	5½
Detroit	45	55	.450	9½
Chicago	39	59	.398	14½
West Division				
Houston	67	34	.663	—
Seattle	51	52	.495	17
Texas	49	52	.485	18
Los Angeles	49	53	.480	18½
Oakland	44	57	.436	23
NATIONAL LEAGUE				
East Division				
Washington	60	39	.606	—
Atlanta	48	52	.480	12½
New York	47	52	.475	13
Miami	46	53	.465	14
Philadelphia	35	64	.354	25
Central Division				
Chicago	53	47	.530	—
Milwaukee	54	49	.524	½
St. Louis	50	51	.495	3½
Pittsburgh	50	52	.490	4
Cincinnati	41	60	.406	12½
West Division				
Los Angeles	71	31	.696	—
Arizona	58	43	.574	12½
Colorado	58	45	.563	13½
San Diego	44	57	.436	26½
San Francisco	40	63	.388	31½
BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS				



# CNMI Women’s National Team vs Hualien FC

PHOTOS By ROSELYN B. MONROYO



The CNMI Women’s National Team’s Jasmine Phan, right, battles Hualien Football Club women’s team’s Li-Chen Tyai for possession during their friendly match last Sunday at the Hopwood Middle School Field.



The CNMI’s Krizel Tuazon, left, reaches in for the ball, while Hualien FC’s Li-Chen Tyai steps in on defense.



The CNMI’s Angie Ito, fourth left, and Jeralyn Castillo, partly hidden, go after the ball.



CNMI players get ready on defense while Hualien FC players discuss their strategy for the free kick.



Hualien FC’s Wen-Lin Tan unloads a corner kick.



CNMI players chase Hualien FC’s Li-Chen Tyai.



Hualien FC’s Wan-Ching Su, 12, shields her teammate Kai-Ling Lin, third from right, from CNMI defenders.



Hualien FC’s Wan-Ching Tan, third left, loses possession as the CNMI’s Angie Ito, second left, steps in on defense.





**Sale away: Red Sox ace Ks 11 in 4-0 win over Mariners**

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# Saipan Tribune Sports

**Cavaliers execs reject Irving trade talk, deny team in chaos**

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

## CNMI looks forward to more friendly games



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Hualien FC's Li-Chen Tsai, left, dribbles away from the defense of the CNMI's Jasmine Phan during the first half of their friendly game last Sunday at the Hopwood Middle School Field.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
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REPORTER

Matches like the one it had against Hualien Football Club are a must for the CNMI Women's National Team.

"Our teams have a lot of young players and to help them improve, we must let them play more games against squads outside Saipan," head coach Luam Khen Koo said in an interview with *Saipan Tribune* after their match opposite Hualien FC's women's team last Sunday at the Hopwood Middle School Field.

The visiting squad blanked the host team, 5-0, but despite the loss, Koo said the Commonwealth players still gained valuable experience from the friendly game.

"They observed and learned how teams outside Saipan plays and the way Hualien played could be similar or better than the squads we will face in the East Asian Football Federation tournament," Koo said.

The CNMI will compete in the EAFF Women's Preliminary Round 1 next year and the squad has been preparing for the event for several months now.

"With this friendly, they get a better idea on how our future opponents will play and what they should do or work on to keep up with the other teams' level of play. We can't just train and run plays without executing them through playing training or friendly matches. We need as many matches as we could get and we have a

lot of time to do that since the EAFF tournament will still be held next year. We have a lot of work to do to get our girls ready," the head coach added. "We have to take every opportunities presented to us to get better and be more prepared," Koo said.

As for his assessment on the visiting squad, Koo said Hualien had a couple of experienced players and they are definitely a big help to the young members of the team. "Just like us, this team is look-

**See CNMI on Page 34**



## Isamu United, SSS cruise past foes

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
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REPORTER

Isamu United and SSS waltzed past their respective opponents in the Saipan Soccer School's 2017 Youth Summer Futsal Tournament yesterday at the TSL Sports Complex.

In the first game, SSS dominated Kanoa Football Club 2, 10-3, to reclaim the solo lead in the co-ed U12 division. SSS now has a 4-0-1 win-draw-loss record against Kanoa FC 2's 3-0-2 slate.

Sean Gil led SSS' easy victory over Kanoa FC 2 after scoring four goals. He got enough support from his teammates as Praise Woo and Garrett Weaver contributed three and two goals, respectively. Evan Mendiola was the fourth SSS player to light

up the board, making one in the second half. With its 10 goals, SSS has earned the most so far in the tournament with 36 and has allowed 16.



Kanoa FC 2, on the other hand, drew one goal each from Markus Toves and Nolan Nge-wakl and got one off SSS' miscue. Kanoa FC 2's goal

total after five games is 26, while it has given up 23. Idle and winless Kanoa FC 1 has the least goals in the division

**See ISAMU on Page 34**



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

NMI U16, in red top, and HK SSS players chase the ball during the second half of their boys U16 game in the Saipan Soccer School's 2017 Youth Summer Futsal Tournament yesterday at the TSL Sports Complex.

## Boyer gets PBT in Hungary

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
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REPORTER

David Boyer had a notable debut in the 17th FINA World Championships after earning a personal best time in the 100m freestyle race last Wednesday in Budapest, Hungary.

The CNMI swimmer clocked in at 1:01.18 in the preliminaries of the 100m freestyle event at the Dagály Swimming Complex to surpass his old PBT of 1:01.47. Boyer was on Heat 4 of qualifying races and defeated Benin's Jefferson Kpanou (1:10.40) and Af-



ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
David Boyer will race in the 100m butterfly event of the 17th FINA World Championships today in Budapest, Hungary.

ghanistan's Hamid Rahim (1:16.81) in the group. The Saipan Swim Club member's time was also faster than Maldives' Ismail Muthasim Adnan (1:01.68), Togo's K. Amegashie (1:11.13), and the Marshall Islands' Philip Kinono (1:12.94).

Uruguay's Enzo Martinez won Heat 4 with his 51.39 seconds, while Australia's Cameron Mcevoy posted the best time in the preliminaries after logging 47.97 seconds. The Australian also advanced to the medal round, but dropped to fourth in the semis, which France's Mehly Metella topped after checking in at 47.65 seconds against the former's 47.95 seconds. The medal race was scheduled yesterday evening and results were unavailable at press time. More than 1,000 swimmers joined the 100m freestyle event and they were divided into 12 heats.

After completing his first event in the tournament, Boyer will have his second and last today when he joins the qualifiers in the 100m butterfly event. The Commonwealth is on Heat 2, Lane 7 and hopes to get a better time than his PBT of 1:06.54. Boyer will

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